



# Jordan Times

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## U.N. panel assails Israel

GENEVA (Petra) — The U.N. Human Rights Commission has strongly condemned Israel's oppressive practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories in its bid to quell the intifada. At the conclusion of a six-week meeting, the commission demanded that the international community protect the Palestinian people in the occupied territories from the Israeli practices. It also called for giving momentum to the efforts related to convening a Middle East peace conference to settle the Palestine problem. The commission also denounced South Africa, Iran and Afghanistan. It also recommended considering an agreement related to protection of children. It is noteworthy that there are 43 member countries in the commission.

## Lebanon talks may be delayed

KUWAIT (AP) — Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad has proposed postponing next week's talks with Lebanese political leaders in Kuwait, apparently because of disputes among Muslim leaders over who should be invited. The Kuwaiti News Agency quoted Sheikh Sabah, who heads a six-member Arab League committee trying to promote peace in Lebanon, as saying the delay would "allow the opportunity for further contacts and consultations with concerned parties." The talks were set for March 17-18. Sheikh Sabah said no new date for the meeting had been put forward. Sheikh Sabah expressed "regret over the latest developments on the Lebanese arena" and urged the Lebanese "to resort to the reason by showing response to the panel's good offices which are aimed at taking Lebanon out of its ordeal."

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## King: Protection of atmosphere is an international duty

# 24 states sign Hague Declaration

THE HAGUE (Agencies) — Jordan and 23 other countries from all corners of the globe Saturday signed a declaration that enlists the United Nations as a watchdog against pollution of earth's atmosphere.

The declaration called for the U.N. to promote and enforce protection of the earth's atmosphere, either by strengthening existing U.N. environmental agencies or creating a new body.

"We are starting a new era of international cooperation," Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, a major force behind the initiative, declared. "Our start-to-day offers great hope."

The non-binding agreement stressed the need to combat global warming, the heating up of the atmosphere or "greenhouse effect" caused by the emission of carbon dioxide and other gases.

It praised recent efforts to reduce damage to the ozone layer which shields the earth from solar radiation and said such cooperation should swiftly be extended to combatting the greenhouse effect.

Scientists predict huge coastal areas will flood as a result of melting polar ice caps and many farm areas will become too hot to produce crops unless atmospheric pollution is reduced.

Signatories of the declaration at the Hague's peace palace, home of the International Court of Justice, included His Majesty King Hussein, the presidents of France, Egypt, Zimbabwe and the Ivory Coast and the prime ministers of Spain, Sweden, Norway, Hungary, Canada and Malta.

The 24 states involved were chosen to represent a balance between developed and under-developed nations.

Addressing the conference, the King said:

"The right of human beings to live is the most sacred of human rights. And the quality of life is an integral part of that right. That quality is being threatened now by the

growing dangers to the earth's atmosphere. Our beautiful planet with which the Almighty God has blessed mankind is being subjected to brutal attacks by modern man.

"Human beings all over the world have many things in common, but the one element that they all share equally is the atmosphere. The outer space of our planet belongs to all mankind. It is not subject to the nations' territorial sovereignty or national airspace.

"As is any threat to the delicate balance of nature in our globe or around it, it affects the lives of human beings and the four corners of the earth. It can only be dealt with on a global basis. No individual state or nation can handle the problem on its own; nor can any individual state or nation afford to ignore it. The problem our planet faces does indeed require vital, urgent and global attention. It is for these considerations as well as among others that I'm honoured to sign the Declaration of the Hague. This is our modest contribution to the new beginning of tackling the problem, and it is a very

sound new approach for realising the problem exists, deciding to confront it and suggesting ways and means to muster the collective effort of all the nations in the world in this noble and glorious task is a worthy endeavour for this worthy cause.

"This joint effort is not only our duty, but it is also the right of our future generations. The least we owe generations to come is to preserve the eco-system for them as God created it and intended it to be.

"Finally, I wish to express our gratitude and appreciation to the leaders and gov-

Following are highlights of the text of the Hague Declaration. "Without prejudice to the international obligations of each state, the signatories acknowledge and will promote the following principles:

A. The principle of developing, within the framework of the United Nations, new institutional authority, either by strengthening existing institutions or by creating a new institution, which, in the context of the preservation of the earth's atmosphere, shall be responsible for combatting any further global warming of the atmosphere and shall involve such decision-making procedures as may be effective even if, on occasion, unanimous agreement was not been achieved.

B. The principle that this institutional authority undertake or commission the necessary studies, be granted appropriate information upon request, ensure the circulation and exchange of scientific and technological information.

C. The principle of appropriate measures to promote the effective implementation of and compliance with the decisions of the new institutional authority, decisions of which will be subject to control by the international court of justice.

D. The principle that countries to which decisions taken to protect the atmosphere shall prove to be an abnormal or special burden, in view, inter alia, of the level of their development and actual responsibility for the deterioration of the atmosphere, shall receive fair and equitable assistance to compensate them for bearing such a burden. To this end mechanisms have to be developed.

ernments of France, the Netherlands and Norway who gave attempts to protect and preserve the planet's environment a global dimension and who initiated our movement and made the signature of this declaration possible.

"I am proud that Jordan was invited to be one of the original signatories of the Hague Declaration.

"I sincerely hope and pray that we will soon witness the endorsement of this declaration by every member state of the United Nations.

"Our meeting here today is an eloquent testimony of our full determination and total commitment to globe. I am confident we will succeed in our efforts for, will failure is not an option, success becomes infected."

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## King begins private visit to Britain

THE HAGUE (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein left the Hague Saturday after attending an international conference on protection of the ozone layer and signing a declaration on the issue.

The King flew to London for a visit lasting several days, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

During his stay in the Hague, the King held separate talks with French Prime Minister Michel Rocard and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney on various world affairs, including the Middle East situation and efforts to find a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict through an international peace conference, Petra

said. The King also discussed with Rocard and Mulroney Jordan's relations with France and Canada and issues related to the Hague conference.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem were present at the two meetings.

King Hussein later attended a lunch hosted by Queen Beatrix for the heads of state attending the conference.

King Hussein was expected to meet with a number of other leaders attending the conference.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday chairs the first meeting of the Royal Jordanian International Consultative Council (RJICC) (Petra photo)

## RJICC holds first meeting in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday opened the first meeting of the Royal Jordanian International Consultative Council (RJICC) at Plaza Hotel.

Royal Jordanian Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Ali Ghandour addressed the conference. He said that "owing to His Majesty King Hussein's care, Royal Jordanian (RJ) — after 25 years of service — has become one of the first class airlines."

Crown Prince Hassan played a key role in running RJ affairs while serving in the post of chairman of the board of directors, he added. Expressing pride in achievements attained in the field of civil aviation, Ghandour said

## Gulf peace talks could be delayed

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Ramadan fast that begins in April could delay a new prolonged round of Gulf peace talks that the United Nations hoped to arrange by the end of this month, according to a senior negotiator said Friday.

After consultations this past week with representatives of Iran and Iraq, Jan Eliasson, the U.N. special representative, told reporters that another preparatory session might be necessary prior to a ministerial session.

Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar proposed last month at a joint meeting with foreign ministers Ali Akbar Velayati of Iran and Tariq Aziz of Iraq that they hold talks in New York under his auspices in the latter part of March.

"I don't want to go into the date options, but several alternatives have been discussed," Eliasson, who is Sweden's chief U.N. delegate, said Friday.

Mentioning the upcoming month-long Ramadan fast for observant Muslims, he said: "We will wait for reactions to meetings during that period."

An Iraqi source said Iraq did not object to holding talks during Ramadan, which begins April 7 or 8 — the exact date depends on the sighting of a new moon — but that the Iraqis did not like the idea.

Other sources said a date in May, after the fast was over, now appeared more likely for the next ministerial round.

"I would say we are making some progress with it comes to finding the framework, the shape

of the talks and that we hope that this progress will continue and that it will then be evident on the ministerial, political level," Eliasson said.

He said he would report to Perez de Cuellar on the preliminary consultations when the secretary general returns here next week from an Asian tour.

"I will also discuss with him whether there is a need for further preparatory meetings with the two sides," he said.

He reaffirmed that a decision remained in principle to hold a ministerial session in New York.

The secretary general has said that this should be held away from U.N. headquarters, so that he may be freed of office distractions, and Arden House, a conference centre in Westchester County, has been suggested as a venue.

Eliasson was asked about the flooding by the Iraqis of the no-man's-land in the Khushk region in order to create an obstacle between forward positions occupied by the two armies, which Perez de Cuellar has caused a violation of the ceasefire accord that went into effect Aug. 20.

He said it was the sort of thing that a joint military group proposed by the United Nations but not yet established could take up.

Eliasson said the ceasefire was holding, but the situation had to be watched very carefully.

## Kohl welcomes ACC, voices EC backing

CAIRO (Petra) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl has voiced the European Community's (EC) welcome and support for the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) which was proclaimed in Baghdad Feb. 16.

In a statement published by the Al Ahran daily of Cairo, Kohl said that the EC's cooperation with the ACC countries would continue and increase for mutual benefit. The EC countries, he added, will do what they can to promote the Middle East peace process to restore the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.



Helmut Kohl

Symposium on ACC

A symposium will be held in Cairo Thursday to discuss the ACC and its importance for the region. The seminar, organised by the Egyptian Society for Economic and Industrial Information, will be attended by several ministers and senior officials.

## Indian dairy expert to share experience with Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The chairman and managing director of the National Dairy Development Board in Anand, India, Dr. Varghese Kurian, is currently paying a three-day visit to Jordan as the guest of the Higher Council for Science and Technology. Dr. Kurian, well-known as the

father of the "dairy revolution" in India, will hold talks with senior Jordanian officials and discuss issues pertaining to the development of the dairy industries in Jordan. He will also share his expertise with the concerned sides in Jordan.

## WFC voices alarm over famine threat

NICOSIA (AP) — A World Food Council (WFC) announcement warned Friday the famine situation in the developing world is likely to deteriorate further if there is no concerted preventive action.

A WFC announcement said that "ecological destruction resulting from unsustainable agricultural practices creates famine risks throughout the developing world."

It added that "the situation is likely to deteriorate further, unless there is concerted action and a firm political commitment by governments and all concerned to make the human condition the central focus in the development process."

The announcement said this was one of the main conclusions of a WFC report to be discussed at the council's 15th ministerial session in Cairo May 22-25.

The report deals with the implementation of "the Cyprus initiative against hunger in the world," which was adopted at the last WFC ministerial session held in Nicosia last May.

The report was drafted by a consultative committee which met in Nicosia Mar. 9 and 10

under the chairmanship of WFC President Eduardo Pesqueira, a former Mexican foreign minister. The announcement said "the central message of the report is that famine still threatens the lives of millions of people."

"Specific nutritional diseases continue to cause great suffering and death, despite the availability of food surpluses in the world."

Another main conclusion of the report is that "hunger is rooted in the problems of underdevelopment and poverty; in a failure to share the food and wealth of our Earth, within and between nations; in inequitable access to education, health and remunerative employment; in racial and gender biases."

"Poverty itself is part of the multiple crises that are afflicting the nations and people of our globe: the crises of food, population and environment."

"Such crises are exacerbated by the problems of debt and trade protectionism. All these crises are essentially man-made; human error or neglect creates them, human complacency perpetuates them but human resolve could eliminate them."

## Israel juggles forces in occupied territories

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Saturday that trained border police would replace Israeli reserve soldiers in parts of the occupied West Bank and Gaza in what he described as a bid to reduce violence in the 15-month-old Palestinian uprising.

In an interview with Israel Radio, Rabin also said he had received indications from leading Palestinians in the occupied territories that they approved of his proposals for a poll in the territories to elect delegates to peace talks with Israel.

The underground leaders of the uprising have rejected the plan.

Rabin said the border police and army conscripts able to serve in the occupied territories for at least several months at a time would take over from reservists in centres of violence.

"Part of Gaza will be the responsibility of the border police, part of the refugee camps will be under the jurisdiction of the border police," Rabin said.

"Parallel to this, similar things

are being done in (the West Bank)," he added.

The Israeli press has reported investigations against border policemen for sexual harassment of women in Gaza, beatings of Arab labourers in Tel Aviv and demanding free goods from merchants in Ramallah.

Israeli troops shot and wounded nine Palestinians in clashes in the West Bank town of Hebron and in Gaza City Saturday, according to reports.

In Ramallah, Palestinians hurled a petrol bomb at an army vehicle, causing damage but no injuries. The army closed off the area and made several arrests, Palestinians said.

The death toll in the revolt hit 400 Friday when a Palestinian shot in the Gaza Strip town of Rafah died of his wounds.

The border police, who have been much more effective than soldiers in quashing protests without inflicting casualties, began replacing soldiers in the Gaza Strip Thursday.

Rabin said he hoped they would soon be patrolling West Bank highways where Israeli cars

are frequently stoned by Palestinians.

Rabin also claimed Palestinian leaders have expressed support for his proposal to hold elections in the occupied territories in order to choose a delegation for direct peace talks with Israel.

"I have received hints that the approach I proposed appeals to not just a small number of the leading figures among the residents of (the occupied) territories," Rabin said.

Rabin's remarks came after leading Palestinians rejected the plan, saying the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was their sole representative and that elections could only be held after Israeli withdrawal.

"The people here will not elect a leadership to be in competition the PLO," Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij said Saturday. "It will only drive a wedge between us and our brothers on the outside."

In clashes with troops Saturday, four Palestinians, including a 12-year-old boy, were shot and wounded in the Gaza Strip, Arab hospital officials said. The army confirmed two wounded.

## Iran bid for OIC backing over Rushdie seen failing

NICOSIA (R) — Iran lobbied the Muslim world Saturday to use the Rushdie row as a political stick to beat the West but an Arab news agency said the Iranian effort was likely to fail.

An Iranian envoy, Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, has nearly ended a tour of seven Gulf states to gain support for Iran's campaign at a meeting of Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) foreign ministers in Saudi Arabia Monday.

"The OIC should adopt a decisive stand against the novel so to prove to the world that the Ummah is united and will never allow its sanctities to be insulted," the Iranian news agency IRNA quoted him as telling the

emir of Kuwait.

But the official United Arab Emirates (UAE) news agency WAM said the 46-member OIC would resist any Iranian attempt to make a political issue of Rushdie's book "The Satanic Verses."

"There is a general trend, backed by most Arab states, not to give the subject any political dimension," said WAM, quoting conference sources in Riyadh. It said the OIC would discuss the book only in its cultural committee.

Iran's powerful Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Raf-

sanjani said Tehran's campaign against Rushdie had already borne fruit, helping spread the Iranian revolution.

"A new door has been opened in the confrontation between Islam and the deviant trends in the world and we are witnessing in a way the export of the revolution all over the world," he told a meeting attended by spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

"The world is beginning to understand that the real conflict is between the West's colonialist motives and anti-religious thoughts, and Islamic ideas as well as the desires of the poor and justice-seeking people of the world."

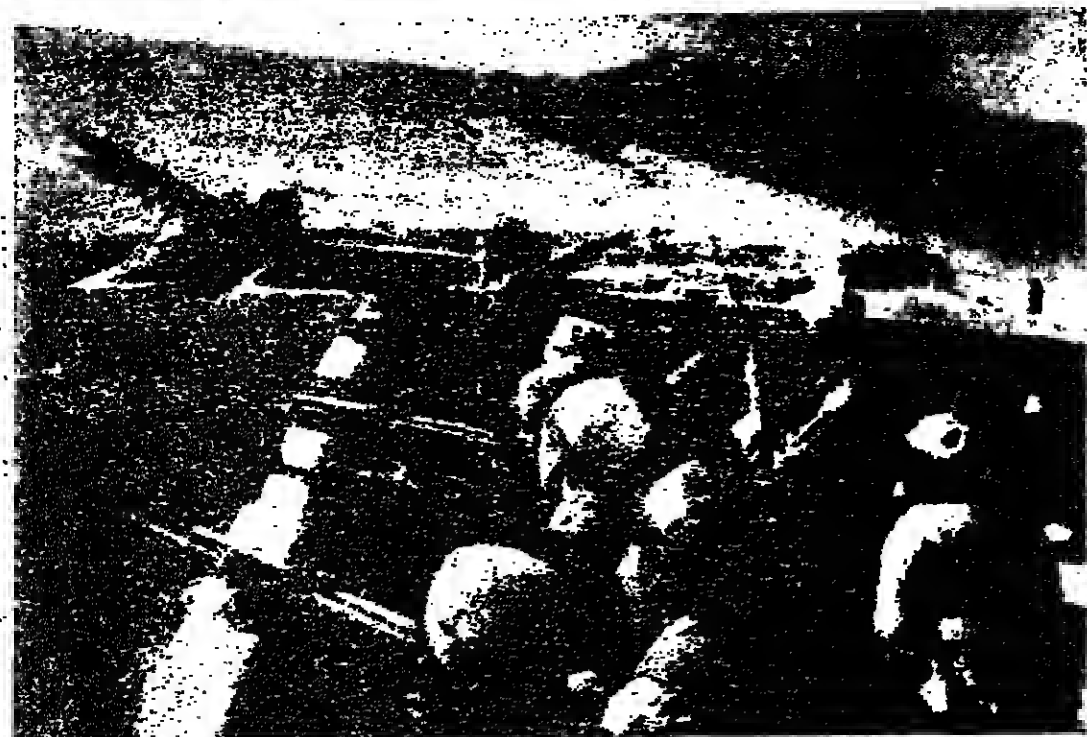
Khomeini's order for Muslims to kill Rushdie last month brought a storm of outrage from the West and led to Iran cutting ties with Britain, where Rushdie first published the book and is now in hiding under police guard.

Iranian sources said Tehran might also cut relations with West Germany, which has taken a tough stance against Khomeini's death threat.

Marches in Britain

Anti-Rushdie protests which began soon after "The Satanic





Afghan Mujahideen waiting to ambush government troops Friday after capturing a government picket at Samarkhet in eastern Afghanistan along the highway to neighbouring Pakistan

## Guerrillas threaten Jalalabad

## Rebel interim government meets inside Afghanistan

SHOAWI, Afghanistan (AP) — Rebels who hope to lead an interim Islamic government in Afghanistan held their first meeting in their homeland as hundreds of guerrillas toting assault rifles and heavier weapons stood guard.

Friday's session in eastern Pakia province, about 12 kilometers from the border with Pakistan, took place at a rebel training base the insurgents call "Sayyaf University" after Rasul Sayyaf, a fundamentalist rebel leader who is designated prime minister.

The proposed government, announced in February after a sometimes fractious meeting of the seven Pakistan-based rebel factions, hopes to take power if Afghanistan's Communist leadership falls.

But the rebels have found it difficult to resolve internal divisions between those who favour a heavily theocratic government and those of a more secular orientation.

All the Pakistan-based rebels are Sunni Muslims and the eight Shi'ite Muslim guerrilla groups based in Iran have not participated in establishing the proposed interim government. The latter say they did not have

enough representation on a consultative body formed by the powerful Sunni Muslim rebels based in Pakistan.

Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of the fundamentalist Hezb-I-Islami rebels based in Pakistan, recently went to Iran in a new attempt to persuade them to join.

"This is the first meeting in a free atmosphere inside Afghanistan," Sayyaf declared Friday at a news conference in a hillside bunker.

Outside guerrillas lined the rocky hills scanning the sky for signs of enemy airplanes or missiles.

Nabi Mohammadi, named interim president at the Pakistan meeting, Sayyaf and seven cabinet ministers attended the meeting.

Sayyaf said the cabinet will total 28 when all portfolios are filled.

Only Saudis recognise rebel government

Sayyaf declined to disclose details of Friday's meeting but said they would meet again soon "closer to Kabul." He said that once all the cabinet posts are filled his government would begin laying the groundwork for elections.

So far only Saudi Arabia has recognised the insurgents' government.

Soviet troops completed a United Nations-brokered withdrawal on Feb. 15. The Soviets left the country's key cities, including the capital, Kabul, in the hands of Afghan troops but insurgents claim control of the countryside.

Soviet forces began entering the country a decade ago to shore up the government of President Najibullah against the rebels, known as the Mujahideen, or Islamic holy warriors.

Mujahideen leaders say Najibullah's largely conscripted army will be decimated by defects, and predict his government will fall shortly. But Najibullah who uses only one name, has claimed his forces are strong and well-provisioned by the departing Soviets.

The rebels have pledged to hold elections throughout Afghanistan within the next six months as a step toward forming a parliament and drafting the constitution of a post-war Islamic republic. However, their efforts have been marred by continual bickering.

Meanwhile facing a fierce rebel attack on Jalalabad and other eastern cities, Najibullah asked the United States and the Soviet Union Friday to intervene, according to media reports.

"As one of the guarantors of the Geneva accords, I ask you, in light of your responsibility, to take immediate necessary measures and prevent, by every possible means, a further intensification and aggravation of the situation," said Najibullah's message, read on Kabul Radio and monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

The United States and the Soviet Union signed the U.N.-brokered accord last April under which Moscow has pulled out its troops.

Both sides reserved the right to arm their side if the other does so, and both repeatedly have accused the other of breaking the accord over the course of the war, which was completed Feb. 15.

TASS reported fierce fighting around the Jalalabad Airport, with rebels launching artillery shells, missiles and anti-tank guided missiles at Afghan army positions, and the government troops responding with concentrated bombing.

Heavy casualties Government casualties apparently were heavy, as TASS reported reinforcements "making up for recent losses in manpower" brought the Jalalabad garrison to 15,000.

TASS said rebel leaders have ordered a massive coordinated shelling attack on all large cities and supply routes. Separately, it reported shelling of the Kabul Airport, with no loss of life.

Najib's message also repeated earlier claims that Pakistani troops were massing on the border for an attack. Pakistan has denied its military was or planned to be involved in the fighting.

Radio Kabul, monitored in Islamabad, said Thursday that 500 Pakistani military personnel were killed in Wednesday's fighting near Jalalabad.

On Thursday, Afghan government radio reported that 20 Pakistani and U.S. advisers were killed during a battle with government troops in eastern Nangarhar province. The U.S. Department of Defense denied the report, saying there were no American advisers in Afghanistan.

Sources close to the guerrillas said fighting has been heavy around Jalalabad during the past several days.

Jalalabad is 72 kilometres west of the Pakistan border and on the main highway linking the Afghan capital with Pakistan.

## Lebanon ports battle heats up

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's civilian government army units pledged Saturday to use force if necessary to end a port blockade by rival military government troops.

As tension rose over the six-day-old action against militia-run ports, attempts by an Arab League committee to reconcile Lebanon's civilian and military governments appeared to have hit snags.

The committee chairman, Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah, said more time was needed for consultations and proposed the committee's next meeting scheduled for Friday be postponed.

The civilian government section of the regular army, led by Major-General Sami Al Khatib, said in a statement the port blockade by military Commander Michel Aoun was provocative.

"The army command will take all needed measures to ensure freedom of navigation along the coast," the statement said, adding that Aoun would be responsible for "any negative repercussions on all ports in Lebanon."

The statement did not specify what Khatib's 15,000-strong Syrian-backed troops might do. But a source told Reuters: "Either all ports will be open, or no ports at all."

Aoun, who commands some 15,000 troops, heads the military government vying for power with the pro-Syrian one led by Acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss.

Aoun is trying to assert his authority over the seven pirate harbours run by Falangist and opposition militias.

His troops, backed by four gunboats and a few ageing Hawker Hunter jet fighters, have already intercepted two cargo ships near ports run by the opposition militias and diverted them to the port of Beirut, controlled by Aoun's army units.

Opposition militias have said they will not give up the ports without a fight. Since the blockade, both sides have fought in mountains south east of Beirut and along the city's green line.

In proposing a postponement of the league committee meeting in Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah appealed to Lebanese factions to act reasonably and cooperate with the committee.

Political sources in Beirut said leftist and pro-Syrian leaders had threatened to boycott the March 17 gathering because they had reservations about the sectarian basis on which invitations had been issued.

The committee began talks in Tunis in January with Lebanon's two rival prime ministers and parliament speaker and met Lebanese spiritual leaders in Kuwait last month.

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Firemen trying to extinguish burning cars after a car bomb exploded near the American University

Hospital in west Beirut this week. The blast killed two women and wounded 21.

## Sudan parties, trade unions boycott premier

CAIRO (AP) — Leaders of Sudan's trade unions and political parties decided, to end consultations with Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi on forming a new government in an attempt to force him to resign.

The Egyptian Middle East News Agency, reporting from the Sudanese capital Khartoum, said the decision came after a five-hour meeting late Friday.

Representatives from Al Mahdi's ruling Umma Party and the Muslim fundamentalist National Islamic Front did not attend the meeting. The front is a partner in Al Mahdi's present coalition cabinet.

The agency said the meeting decided to send an "ultimatum" to Al Mahdi through the State Council, a collective presidency, asking him to step down within 24 hours.

The leaders did not say what they would do if Al Mahdi failed to comply, but their move will certainly put him in a corner since he is being pressured by the army to form a broad-based cabinet that could reach peace with the rebel Sudan's People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and end the six-year-old civil war in the south.

The army gave Al Mahdi an ultimatum to that effect in February and renewed its conditions Thursday.

The army's ultimatum implied the threat of a military take-over, and Western diplomats said that while senior generals did not seem ready to overthrow Al Mahdi, the same could not be said of junior officers.

The crisis began in January when the Democratic Unionist Party, the second largest in the Sudanese parliament, quit Al Mahdi's government to protest his refusal to endorse a tentative



Sadeq Al Mahdi

peace agreement it worked out with the SPLA Nov. 16.

Al Mahdi's refusal to endorse the agreement apparently stemmed from his fear to lose the support of the front. The front opposes freezing the controversial Islamic laws, a SPLA pre-condition for making peace with the government in the north.

## Missing banker reappears

BEIRUT (AP) — Prominent Lebanese international banker Roger Tamraz reappeared in Beirut Friday and denied reports he had been kidnapped and held to ransom.

Tamraz, 48, checked into the seaside west Beirut Summerland Hotel shortly before sunset.

"I was not kidnapped," he said in an interview with the Associated Press. "I was on my own doing my own thinking."

Tamraz said the ransom report was "based on rumour and figment of the imagination, and there's nothing to it."

Earlier Friday, however, a Tamraz business associate told the AP in Nicosia, Cyprus, that

the banker was freed after arranging to pay the final instalment of a \$3-million ransom.

The Voice of Lebanon radio said Thursday that Tamraz was being held by Elie Hobeika, commander of a militia in the eastern Bekaa Valley town of Zahle.

The report said that Hobeika, a former commander of the Lebanese Forces, the main rightist militia, was forcing Tamraz to pay the total sum of \$3 million he claimed was owed him.

Tamraz, who is a United States resident, headed the Al Mashrek Bank until last December.

The Tamraz associate, who spoke by telephone from Paris and declined to be identified, said

a "loan instrument" had been fixed to transfer the final \$750,000 in ransom money to the kidnappers through a Swiss bank.

He said Tamraz' release had been delayed for two days while the loan was arranged.

An initial payment of \$1.5 million Feb. 24 was followed Wednesday by second transfer of \$750,000 from a Paris bank, the associate said.

The Tamraz associate and Beirut newspapers said the banker was abducted by armed men Feb. 19. On Tuesday, after the second payment was finalised, Tamraz phoned his Paris office and said, "It's finished now. I will be with you in 24 to 48 hours."

## Arafat urges Bush to help Palestinians

DHAKA (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat urged President George Bush Saturday not to hesitate and to help Palestinians achieve independence.

"We are not asking for the moon. We are simply asking for international legality to be implemented," Arafat told a news conference.

"President Bush must shake off his hesitancy and formulate a policy for peace," he said at the end of a 24-hour visit in Bangladesh.

"We know that self-determination is one of the main principles of the American people. They fought for their self-determination against the British empire," he added.

Arafat earlier held talks with President Hossein Mohammad Ershad in which they discussed the Middle East and Afghanistan, a presidential aide said.

He also laid the foundation stone of a Palestinian embassy to be built in Dhaka.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Israelis assault U.N. troops

TYRE (AP) — Israeli troops beat up four United Nations peacekeepers near their headquarters in the Lebanese border town of Naqura, security sources in South Lebanon said Friday. The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said six Israeli troops went into a restaurant on the main road to Naqura, harassed and slapped three Swedish and one Irish soldier before confiscating their cameras and films. The Israeli troops accused the four U.N. soldiers of taking pictures of an Israeli-made Merkava tank they were about before entering the restaurant, the sources said. The incident Thursday was the latest in a series of attacks by Israeli troops against peacekeepers serving with the U.N. Interim Force in South Lebanon (UNIFIL). On Tuesday Israeli troops drove a tank into a group of UNIFIL vehicles after the peacekeepers detained an Israeli military convoy at a checkpoint in South Lebanon. No U.N. soldiers were injured although several vehicles were damaged, according to U.N. sources.

### Israel frees Palestinian activist

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israel has freed a Palestinian human rights activist who had been adopted by Amnesty International as a prisoner of conscience. Workers at the Al-Haq (law in the service of man) human rights organisation in the occupied West Bank said that Zahi Jaradat, 24, was released Wednesday when the order for his detention expired. He had been held for a year without trial. Jaradat, who lives in Hebron in the West Bank, had worked as a field researcher for Al-Haq since 1982. Colleague Marty Rosenbluth said he had been detained twice in Israel, in 1985 and last year, and was adopted by Amnesty on both occasions. The American-based Lawyers' Committee for Human Rights has also named Jaradat as a human rights activist jailed without trial. Rosenbluth said three other Al-Haq workers were currently jailed without trial or charges in Israel.

### 887 candidates to run in Iraq poll

BAGHDAD (AP) — The government Saturday said 887 candidates will run in the general elections April 1 for a national assembly. A list released by the government election organisation committee showed that only one senior Baath Party member, one minister and few senior party and government officials have registered as candidates. There are 51 women running. The election for the 255 seat assembly, the Iraqi parliament formed in 1980, were postponed twice. It was originally scheduled for Aug. 3 last year. But after Iran accepted a United Nations-sponsored cease-fire in the Gulf war, the ruling Revolutionary Command Council postponed the vote until March 3. The election, the third ever, was postponed again to allow more independent candidates to run. In the last election, held in the middle of the eight-year war with Iran, 740 candidates ran, including 46 women. Most of the winners were party and government officials.

### Vincennes-related blast tightens security

SAN DIEGO (R) — U.S. navy authorities have tightened security after a bomb attack on the wife of the captain of the USS Vincennes which shot down an Iranian airliner in the Gulf with the loss of 290 lives. The stepped-up security followed the blast Friday that ripped apart a mini-van driven by Sharon Rogers, wife of Captain Will Rogers, whose warship destroyed the Iran Air jet in July. Investigators say the bombing could have been in revenge for the shooting down of the Airbus. Police took Rogers and his wife, who was uninjured, to an undisclosed location, believing they might be targets of further attacks. The Vincennes fired on the Airbus in what naval authorities said was a mistaken belief that it was an attacking Iranian F-14 fighter. Officials tightened security at all installations in San Diego, home to a number of naval stations, and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents began a probe into the incident.

### Saudi Arabia beheads four

NICOSIA (R) — A Filipino woman and three Yemeni men were beheaded in public in Saudi Arabia after holy Muslim prayers Friday. The Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said the woman, whose name it gave in Arabic as Rina Linda Nida, was beheaded in Riyadh after being convicted of strangling a young Saudi girl. The Yemeni men were executed in a square in the southern town of Faisalia. They were found guilty of raping a seven-year-old Saudi boy who then died. SPA, received in Nicosia, named the men as Aziz Abdou, Said Ibrahim and Faisal Yehia but not say whether they were North or South Yemeni.

### Bush to meet Arens Monday

WASHINGTON (AP) — Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens will meet with President Bush Monday to discuss the Middle East peace efforts and other issues of interest to the region, according to a White House announcement. Arens will also meet with Secretary of State James A. Baker III and with members of Congress during his three-day trip to Washington. Said White House Press Secretary Martin Fitzwater Friday. Fitzwater said Bush did not have any new Middle East peace initiatives to suggest to Arens. He declined to be specific about what Bush might bring up. Topics could include the recent State Department human rights report that criticised Israel's armed forces for excessive violence in putting down Palestinian uprisings in the occupied territories. Arens' visit comes as the Israeli army shifts some of its troops out of Gaza Strip refugee camps to reduce tension and fatal clashes in the teeming Palestinian communities.

### Syria, S. Yemen cooperation talks

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian Defence Minister Major-General Mustafa Tlas Saturday met his South Yemeni counterpart Colonel Saleh Obeid Ahmed to discuss military cooperation, diplomats said. Obeid who arrived in Damascus Friday, told reporters his visit was aimed at promoting the defences and cooperation between the armies of Syria and South Yemen. "The visit will give positive results in achieving many accomplishments in various fields especially in the military field," he said. He said visit was important due to the current political and military developments in the region and the international arena, especially the Arab-Israeli conflict.

| JORDAN TELEVISION |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Tel: 773111-19    |                        |
| PROGRAMME ONE     |                        |
| 15:30             | Koran                  |
| 15:40             | Programme review       |
| 15:45             | Children's programmes  |
| 17:10             | Football               |
| 18:00             | News summary in Arabic |
| 18:05             | Local programme        |
| 18:25             | Arabic series          |
| 19:15             | Local programme        |
| 19:40             | Programme review       |
| 20:00             | News in Arabic         |
| 20:30             | Arabic series          |
| 21:30             | Programme review       |
| 21:40             | Variety programme      |
| 23:00             | News summary in Arabic |
| PROGRAMME TWO     |                        |
| 18:30             | La Baby Sitter         |
| 18:40             | L'Esprit des Fars      |
| 19:00             | News in French         |
| 19:15             | A documentary          |
| 19:30             | News in Hebrew         |
| 19:45             | Variety programme      |
| 20:30             | Perfect Strangers      |
| 21:10             | Birds for all seasons  |
| 22:00             | News in English        |
| 22:20             | Murder She Wrote       |
| PRAYER TIMES      |                        |
| 04:30             | Fajr                   |
| 05:47             | (Sunrise) Duha         |
| 11:46             | Dhuhr                  |
| 15:07             | Asr                    |

## DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

| 17:45   | Maghreb   |
|---|---|
| 19:00   | Isha  |
| CHURCHES  |   |
| St. Mary of Nazareth Church   | Swatish, Tel. 810740  |
| Assembly of God Church, Tel.  | 632785  |
| St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.  | Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.                             |
| Be la Salle Church Tel. 661757  | Terrassas Church Tel. 622366  |
| Church of the Annunciation Tel.   | 623541.   |
| Anglican Church Tel. 625383.  | Tel. 625343.  |
| Armenian Catholic Church Tel.   | 771331.   |
| Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.   | 775261.   |
| St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.   | Armenian International Church Tel. 683535.                          |
| Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.  | 811295.   |
| Rainbow Congregation Tel. 822605.   | The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 813817, 821364 |
| WEATHER   |   |
| Bulk supplied by the Department of Meteorology.   |   |
| It will be sunny and another rise in temperature will occur. Winds will be                                  |   |
| westerly light to moderate. In Aqaba winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.                        |   |
| Min./max. temp.   |   |
| Amman   | 8 / 19  |
| Aqaba   | 12 / 28   |
| Deserts   | 5 / 23  |
| Jordan Valley   | 11 / 26   |
| Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 17, Aqaba 25. Humidity readings: Amman 35 per cent, Aqaba 30 per cent. |   |
| USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS  |   |
| NIGHT DUTY  |   |
| AMMAN:  |   |
| Dr. Abdul Rahman Al Najjar  | 775050  |
| Dr. Mahmoud Jabr  | 896691  |
| Dr. Wael Kharabji   | 665917  |
| Dr. Anwar Aqrabi  | (—)   |
| First pharmacy  | 661912  |
| Fardous pharmacy  | 776336  |
| Al Asma pharmacy  | 637055  |
| Nairokh pharmacy  | 623672  |
| Al Salam pharmacy   | 636790  |
| Yacoub pharmacy   | 644945  |
| Shweitan pharmacy   | 637660  |
| IRBID:  |   |
| Dr. Nidal Masasat   | (—)   |
| Al Shara' pharmacy  | 1985238   |
| ZARQA:  |   |
| Dr. Hisham Hyassat  | 636381  |
| Khalaf pharmacy   | 985417  |
| EMERGENCIES   |   |
| Civil Defence Department  | 661111  |
| Civil Defence Immediate   | 620341  |
| Rescue  | 620341  |
| Civil Defence Emergency   | 199   |
| Fire Brigade  | 192, 621111, 637777   |
| First Brigade   | 6220995   |
| Blood Bank  | 775123  |
| Highway Police  | 843402  |
| Traffic Police  | 65639091  |
| Public Security Department  | 6672279   |
| Hotel Complaints  | 656000 / 685111   |
| Price Complaints  | 605800  |
| Water and Sewerage  | 661176  |
| Complaints  | 897467  |
| Amman Municipality  | 787111  |
| Complaints  | 787111  |
| Telephone Information (directory assistance)  | 12  |
| Overseas Calls  | 17  |
| Central Amman Telephone   | 623101  |
| Repairs   | 623101  |
| Abdali Telephone Repairs  | 661101  |
| Jordan Television   | 773111  |
| RADIO JORDAN  |   |
| Water Authority   | 774111  |
| Jordan Electricity Authority  | 680100  |
| Electric Power Company  | 636381  |
| RJ Flight Information   | 08-53200  |
| Queen Alia Intl. Airport  | 08-53200  |
| HOSPITALS   |   |
| AMMAN:  |   |
| Hussein Medical Centre  | 813813/22   |
| Khalid Maternity, J. Amn  | 6442816   |
| Akileh Maternity, J. Amn  | 642412  |
| Jabal Amman Maternity   | 642362  |
| Malhas, J. Amman  | 636140  |
| Palestine, Shamsan  | 6641714   |
| Shamsan Hospital  | 669131  |
| University Hospital   | 645845  |
| Al-Muasher Hospital   | 6672279   |
| The Islamic, Abdali   | 66612737  |
| Al-Ahli, Abdali   | 6641646   |
| Italian, Al-Muhajirien  | 7771013   |
| Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh   | 7751126   |
| Army, Marja   | 891611/15   |
| Ouden Alia Hospital   | 602240/50   |
| Alia Hospital   | 674135  |
| ZARQA:  |   |
| Zarqa Govt. Hospital  | 091983323   |
| Zarqa National Hospital   | 091991071   |
| Ibn Sina Hospital   | 091986732   |
| IRBID:  |   |
| Princeps Basmia Hospital  | 021275555   |
| Greek Catholic Hospital   | 021272755   |
| MARKET PRICES   |   |
| Upptower price in lbs per kg.   |   |
| Apple   | 300 / 400   |
| Banana  | 350 / 300   |
| Banana (Mukammal)   | 300 / 250   |
| Broad beans   | 180 / 140   |
| Cabbage   | 130 / 100   |
| Carrots   | 150 / 160   |
| Cauliflower   | 150 / 100   |
| Cucumbers   | 420 / 360   |
| Eggplant  | 230 / 160   |
| Garlic  | 270 / 200   |
| Grapefruit  | 360 / 320   |
| Lemon   | 420 / 360   |
| Marrow (large)  | 130 / 100   |
| Marrow (small)  | 250 / 200   |
| Orange (Shamouti)   | 400 / 320   |
| Orange (local)  | 330 / 280   |
| Onion (dry)   | 180 / 120   |
| Onion (green)   | 180 / 120   |
| Pepper (hot)  | 74  |



## Ramtha meeting to discuss development

RAMTHA (J.T.) — The border city of Ramtha will host a general meeting Sunday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to discuss the development process in Ramtha District.

A set of working papers dealing with ideas and proposals for implementing industrial, agricultural, health and cultural projects will be reviewed by the participants who include the presidents of Yarmouk University, Jordan University of Science and Technology and the heads of local councils.

Heads of government departments involved in projects in Ramtha, such as the Housing Corporation, the Land and Survey Department, the Agricultural Credit Corporation, the Telecommunications Corporation and



HRH Crown Prince Hassan

the Jordanian Industrial Estates Corporation, will be represented at the meeting.

The main papers, according to a preparatory committee, deal with the development of agricultural sector focusing on the development of 225 dunums of land around the city.

One of the papers deals with better utilisation of the wastewater treatment plants in Ramtha and Irbid to irrigate lands for the production of animal feed.

## Conference to create Federation of Arab Anti-Cancer Societies

AMMAN (J.T.) — Different forms of Cancer will be scrutinised at a conference due to open at the University of Jordan on March 21 under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The three-day meeting has been organised by the Jordan Anti-Cancer Society in cooperation with the National Medical Institution (NMI), the Health Ministry and the Jordan Medical Association (JMA), according to Dr. Walid Turk, the society president.

He said that the conference, the first of its kind in the Arab World, will be attended by both Arab and foreign specialists, who will review papers, deliver lectures and hold extensive discussions dealing with the disease.

According to society sources the creation of a Federation of Arab Anti-Cancer Societies will

be declared during the conference.

Jordan currently treats cancer patients at Al Bashir Hospital in Amman where the Centre for Radiology and Nuclear Medicine was recently upgraded with new up-to-date equipment.

The NMI board of trustees on March 7 gave its approval for the establishment of a specialised cancer centre and appointed a committee to choose an appropriate site for the projected centre, adjoining one of the institution's hospitals.

Ministry of Health sources said last summer that nearly 60 patients visited the centre at the Bashir Hospital on a daily basis to receive treatment, which is only available there.

Dr. Turk said that Arab and foreign specialists attending the conference will hold side meetings and dialogues to exchange views about their cancer treatment experiments.



HM Queen Noor



Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Thouqan Hindawi Saturday receives the visiting Syrian Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad (Petra photo).

Also present is the Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad (Petra photo).

## Hindawi, Assad and Syrian team discuss cooperation in education

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi Saturday, met in his office with visiting Syrian Minister of Higher Education Kamal Sharaf and discussed bilateral cooperation in university education and the exchange of expertise.

The issue of conducting joint research by universities and research centres in Jordan and Syria was discussed at the meeting which was also attended by the Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad.

Accompanying Dr. Sharaf on his visit are presidents of Aleppo University, Tishreen University, in addition to the Vice President of Damascus University.

Sharaf and Assad met earlier at the Ministry of Higher Education and discussed cooperation in the field of higher education between Jordan and Syria. Assad briefed Sharaf on matters related to Jordanian universities and the Kingdom's educational philosophy.

Sharaf arrived here early Saturday on a four-day official visit to Jordan and was greeted upon arrival by Assad and senior government officials.

Sharaf and his accompanying delegation are expected to hold further talks during their stay in Jordan and will tour universities and educational institutions.

Also Saturday, the Syrian minister visited the University of

campus. The Syrian minister accompanied by Assad later called at the Advanced Teachers Training College and was briefed on its development and plans.

He toured classrooms and met with teaching staff and students to exchange views on teaching services.

The college, which opened its doors last October, was set up by the Ministry of Education to provide higher training to Jordanian teachers in various specialisations.

A similar college was opened last month in Irbid and a third one is due to open in Karak in June.



Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad Saturday holds talks with his Syrian counterpart, Kamal Sharaf, and the accompanying delegation (Petra photo).

## Orphans' fund to acquire shares in Islamic bank

AMMAN — The Orphans' Fund is to acquire a share in the projected National Islamic Bank which will soon be set up in the Kingdom, and plans to invest JD 1 million in its capital, the fund's director Dr. Abdul Salam Al Abhadi announced Saturday.

The capital of the new bank will be owned jointly with the Jordan Engineers Association, the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund and the Jordan Bank, Abhadi said in an interview published in Al Dustour daily.

He said one of the bank's tasks will be to handle the funds of nearly 30,000 Jordanian orphans now under the fund's trust.

The orphans' fund, which was established in 1972, now owns JD 19 million much of which is being invested in development projects to earn money for the orphans who own the deposits, Abhadi explained.

He said that the Orphans' Funds were not deposited in banks to earn interest but invested in projects to the orphans' benefit on a purely commercial basis, since receiving interest is contrary to the teachings of Islam.

According to Abhadi, the orphans' capital is now gaining more profits at the rate of 7.4 per cent, depending on the economic situation and the profits of the different projects invested in.

He said that the orphans' fund is currently holding contacts with the Jordan Cement Factories Company, Yarmouk University and Mu'ta University to enter with them in a major investment project.

Abhadi said that the orphans' fund takes care of the orphans and their savings.

### HAVE A GREEN St. PATRICK'S DAY

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### NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

**ROYAL DECREE:** A Royal Decree issued Saturday entrusted Deputy Prime Minister Thouqan Hindawi to take over the duties of Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem during the latter's absence abroad. (Petra)

**12 PROJECTS EXEMPTED FROM TAXES:** The Cabinet Saturday approved of 12 Jordanian industrial projects as economic projects entitled to benefit from tax exemptions provided for by a law on encouraging investments. These industries have been set up to produce paper, wood, and plastic products. (Petra)

**HASHISH PEDDLER JAILED:** The military court has sentenced Saad Abdul Majid to three years imprisonment and the payment of JD 1,500 for trafficking with hashish. The military governor Saturday endorsed the sentence. (Petra)

**CHILD THEATRE FESTIVAL:** The Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) will organise a three-day child theatre festival in Aqaba starting March 13. The festival, which will include a puppet show, is to be held at the NHF's Aqaba centre which was opened by Her Majesty Queen Noor in 1986. The centre is an integrated unit including a nursery, a kindergarten and other facilities for the benefit of children, financed by the Jordan Ports Corporation and the Aqaba Region Authority. (Petra)

**MAP EXHIBITION:** A week-long exhibition of the Tsuchingen Atlas of the Middle East was opened at Yarmouk University Saturday following a similar display at the University of Jordan last month. The exhibition displays a collection of Atlases on the region's history and geography, outlining habitation areas and the activities of inhabitants over the ages. (Petra)

**SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTS:** Mu'ta University President Dr. Ali Mahafza Saturday opened the fourth scientific experiments exhibition at the university. The ten-day exhibition is designed to conduct scientific experiments and applications related to scientific subjects taught at the secondary stage. (Petra)

**250 FIRMS BOYCOTTED:** The Ministry of Finance and Customs has issued a decision imposing an embargo on 250 foreign companies in accordance with the provisions of the unified Arab law which deals with boycotting Israel. The law also includes lifting the embargo imposed on 120 foreign companies after they amended their policies in accordance with the provisions of this law. (Petra)

**ANANI MEETS IRAQI MINISTER:** Iraqi Military Industry Minister Hussein Kamel Hassan Saturday received Royal Scientific Society President Dr. Jawad Anani. They discussed matters related to industrial and scientific cooperation within the framework of the Arab Cooperation Council. (Petra)

**CAMPAIGN AGAINST ILLEGAL LABOUR:** Labour Ministry Secretary General Dr. Saleh Khasawneh Saturday visited Amman Labour Ministry's Employment Office and expressed satisfaction with the campaign the ministry is launching to identify foreign labourers who work in Jordan illegally. The director of the office explained the policy adopted in this regard and the successes attained so far. (Petra)

**2 SHOT IN RAMTHA:** Two people, one 15-year-old and the other 23 years of age have been admitted to Ramtha Government Hospital Friday after being shot in the shoulder. According to Sawt Al Shaah they were attending a wedding ceremony at Al Shajarah village when the incident occurred. (J.T.)

### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

#### EXHIBITIONS

- \* An art exhibition by Mohammad Bolis and Munira Al Tunisiyya at Al Qadisiyya College.
- \* A plastic art exhibition by Noelle Shawa at Alia Art Gallery.
- \* A graphic art exhibition displaying works by German artists Liebermann, Slevogt and Corinzh at the Jordan National Gallery.
- \* An art exhibition by Egyptian artist 'Adli Rizqullah at Al Wasil Gallery.
- \* An art exhibition by seven Jordanian artists at the Art Gallery of Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 3 - 6 p.m.
- \* An art exhibition by Riham Ghassib entitled "Jordan in Spring" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- \* An exhibition entitled "The Tsuchingen Atlas of the Middle East" (and a seminar with Dr. Kamal Abdul Fattah) at the Yarmouk University — 3:00 p.m.

#### LECTURES

- \* A lecture, in Arabic, entitled "The Palestine Question in the Future" by Dr. Assad Abdul Rahman at the Orthodox Club — 7:30 p.m.
- \* A lecture, in Arabic, entitled "The Jordanian Dinar" by Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Jordan Dr. Maher Shukri at the Ferabi Building, the Yarmouk University — 3:30 p.m.
- \* A lecture, in Arabic, by Prof. Dr. Ulrich Haarmann entitled "Nation and Fatherland in Medieval Christianity and Islam" at the Yarmouk University — 12:00 noon.
- \* A lecture organised by Amideast to be delivered by Jordanian graduates from U.S. on fields of study — engineering, applied health, business, computer science in the U.S. — at the American Centre — 5:00 p.m.
- \* A lecture on the history of earthquakes east of the Mediterranean Sea by Dr. Zubair Al 'Issa at the Biology Auditorium, the University of Jordan — 12 noon.

#### FILMS

- \* A feature film entitled "Annie Hall" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.
- \* A feature film entitled "The Draughtsman's Contract" at the British Council — 6:00 p.m.
- \* Documentary films on Deutschlandspiegel at the Yarmouk University — 5:00 p.m.

## Dajani visits Madaba district, inspects development programmes

MADABA (Petra) — Interior Minister Rajai Dajani Saturday made an inspection trip to Madaba, south of here, and met with District Governor Khalil Khreisat as well as heads of government departments and local councils.

The minister was briefed on Madaba district's development programmes and discussed schemes to be implemented within the current 1988-1990 five-year development plan.

Dajani urged local councils to embark on production projects and to control spending as much as possible.

He also underlined the important task of supervising and following up of development and services projects.

Dajani said, the Ministry of Interior was keen on setting up suitable buildings to house administrative departments and provincial offices.

He also stressed the need for involving public and private sector elements in shouldering re-

sponsibility in the construction and development process, and called on local authorities to encourage voluntary work by the public — such as cleanliness campaigns and planting of trees — in cooperation with local schools.

Dajani also urged local councils to control building operations to prevent random building and misuse of agricultural land.

At the outset of the meeting, the minister was briefed by Khreisat on various projects

being carried out, including housing projects.

Khreisat said a total of JD 28,567 million had been spent in the first part of the five year development plan in Madaba district.

The minister also visited Dhihan district, and reviewed with the district governor the services and schemes included in the plan.

Dajani was accompanied by Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin.



Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani Saturday inspects development programmes in Madaba district. Also present is Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin and the Madaba district governor (Petra photo).

## Committee calls for data bank on electric power

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-day seminar by the Informatics Committee of the Arab Union of Producers, Transporters and Distributors of Electricity, ended in Amman Saturday, voicing support for the idea of creating a data bank on electric power in the Arab World to provide technical and economic data on electric energy production.

A statement issued at the end of the meeting said the committee also urged Arab countries to link their electricity department computer systems to facilitate the flow of information among Arab states and benefit from Arabsat programmes related to electricity and affiliated fields.

The statement referred to a joint Egyptian-Jordanian project to link the national grids and their associated computers which it described as a model for other states.

The delegates, representing Jordan, Syria, Bahrain and Egypt, discussed plans for unifying technical terms and specifications on electric power production and distribution in the Arab World.

They also discussed means of gathering information related to power generation in the Arab World, plans for the interconnection of grids and an exchange of information and publications on electricity.

## RJ, ministry seek to organise Jordanian tourism weeks in Finland

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Tourism and Royal Jordanian (RJ) are currently studying the prospect of organising Jordanian tourism weeks in Finland, and agreement on final arrangements are expected to follow a meeting by the joint Jordanian-Finnish Economic Cooperation Committee, according to an announcement here Saturday.

The announcement said that the committee was scheduled to hold its meetings in Helsinki in the coming few weeks.

The announcement was made following a meeting in Amman by Minister of Tourism Yanal Hikmat and a team of Finnish police officers currently on a visit to the

Kingdom. Hikmat spoke on Jordanian-Finnish Cooperation in tourism and said that His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Finland in Autumn 1987 was instrumental in promoting bilateral cooperation in all fields.

The minister expressed hope that Finland will send more tourist groups to Jordan.

RJ has been organising two weekly trips from Helsinki to Aqaba during the winter season. According to the statement these trips could be increased in view of the rising demand in Finland on visits to the port city during the winter season.

The visiting police officers were accompanied during their meeting with the minister by the director of a tourism agency in Helsinki which has been involved in organising the trips. The director said that Jordan has many attractions which could be visited by the Finnish tourists apart from the city of Aqaba.

According to the statement the weekly trips are part of a joint RJ-Ministry of Tourism activities and programmes to encourage tourism in the Kingdom.

Majali receives Finnish team

The Finnish team members were received by His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein at the Public Security Department (PSD), and the department's director, Abdul Hadi Al Majali, explained security arrangements and training courses for police officers.

Majali also spoke on endeavours by the PSD to combat crime and drug trafficking in cooperation with Western European countries.

The team also met with the director of the Amman Police Department Yousef Gbaraibeh to discuss police organisation as well as the duties involved in them and the comprehensive security concept in Jordan which was initiated three years ago.

## Training seminar opens on raising seed production

AMMAN (J.T.) — A training seminar in agricultural seeds technology opened at the University of Jordan Saturday.

Dr. Bassam Snobar, director of the Botanical Department, addressed the opening session outlining the topics to be discussed during the five-day meetings.

Snobar noted that the seminar was part of the university's drive to help increase seed production, a project it is currently carrying

out in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO).

Taking part in the meetings are lecturers from the University of Jordan, the JCO and the Ministry of Agriculture.

According to a university official, the participants in the training seminar will make field trips to a number of agricultural areas.



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Sunday's Economic Pulse

## Financial adjustment for public corporations

By Dr. Fahed Faweh

THE government finally adopted a policy of relative austerity and financial prudence. Perhaps the measures taken were not as tough and radical as the difficult circumstances require, but they were fairly strong and substantial, as indicated by 1989 budget, which has the same size of the previous year's budget in absolute numbers, despite the substantial decline in the domestic purchasing power of the dinar of around 20 per cent, resulting from the dinar's depreciation of 31 per cent during 1988.

The government also took a sweeping decision to suspend all capital expenditure on infrastructure projects unless such projects

were already in process. This was based on the fact that the infrastructure, already in place, was sufficient to fully satisfy our needs for basic services now and for many years to come, without further additions. In fact, blocking new purchases of equipment and facilities may urge the government to improve the human element and enhance the efficient running of the public utilities.

Financial adjustment and rational policies should not be confined to the central government and its subdivisions and departments. It should go further down the road to reach the whole public sector, which is far larger than the central government. Suffice it to say that the collective budget of the Jordanian public sector's autonomous institutions and corporations make no less than 50 per cent of the budget of the government proper.

Unfortunately, very little progress, if any, has been made on this front. Public corporations did not yet embark on a self-sufficiency programme or endeavour to achieve financial surpluses.

They still depend heavily on financial subsidy from the government, either directly or indirectly, and thus they continue to be a drain on foreign currencies and public funds which the economy cannot afford any more.

Certain public corporations have failed to perform the very duties they were created to perform, and accordingly must be written off without delay. The Housing Corporation, for example, could not sell its products in the market and beat the private sector except after giving a big discount of around 40 per cent of its direct cost. This is approximately the rate of waste and inefficiency in its performance.

A thorough examination of the public sector corporations will reveal that the Housing Corporation is not the exception. Other corporations should be either altered or written off altogether due to their failure to function

economically, or because the private sector can replace them and do a better job without costing the government a penny, but instead providing it with additional revenues.

Some other corporations could not be simply written off, because they are state symbols, or provide a service which we should not depend on foreign corporations to perform for us.

In such cases we should cut the fat, remove the dead wood, and cut down these inflated corporations to size, in order to make them feasible or affordable. In crucial times we cannot afford to maintain prestigious activities un-

less they are run properly just like any private shareholding company.

Furthermore, public sector corporations will not adjust voluntarily. Austerity, prudence and rationality should be imposed on them. In fact this job is more urgent than the austerity of the central government itself, if we were serious about such policies, in order to adjust our position, overcome our difficulties and use the crisis as an opportunity to correct the drifting trends.

Of course it takes guts to face the challenge and control those who think they are beyond control, but the government demonstrated so far that the will is there.

## Some explanation needed

THE ARAB World would welcome any meeting between U.S. President George Bush and American Jewish leaders if the purpose is to win their support for a durable and just settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflicts.

Arab comfort and satisfaction with any such dialogue between the U.S. government and the American Jewish community would also be more complete if the U.S. president invites representatives of the other side to hear them out. Singling out the Jewish community in America as partners in the American articulation of Washington's policy towards the Middle East strikes the Arab side, whether in America or in the Middle East, as overtly unfair and unbalanced.

But be that as it may, the words and policy statements that were attributed to President George Bush during his meetings with two Jewish American delegations — one from the Republican Party's National Jewish Coalition and the other from the Conference of Presidents of major American Jewish Organisations — give the Arab World considerable concern. The American president has been quoted by the attending Jewish leaders as ruling out any possibility of applying pressure on Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir when he visits Washington and the White House next month. One would pause here to inquire whether Washington has subscribed to the philosophy of "friendly persuasion" in dealing with the tough and intransigent Israeli prime minister. But that is not all. What worries the Arabs everywhere is the assurance given to the Jewish leaders that Washington will not acquiesce to an Israeli withdrawal to the 1967 borders or the creation of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. And for dessert, the U.S. president has been quoted as assuring Tel Aviv that Washington is totally committed to maintaining Israel's qualitative military edge over any combination of Arab military forces. As if all this is not enough, American Jewish leaders emerged from the meeting with the distinct message that Washington hopes to even strengthen its strategic cooperation with Israel.

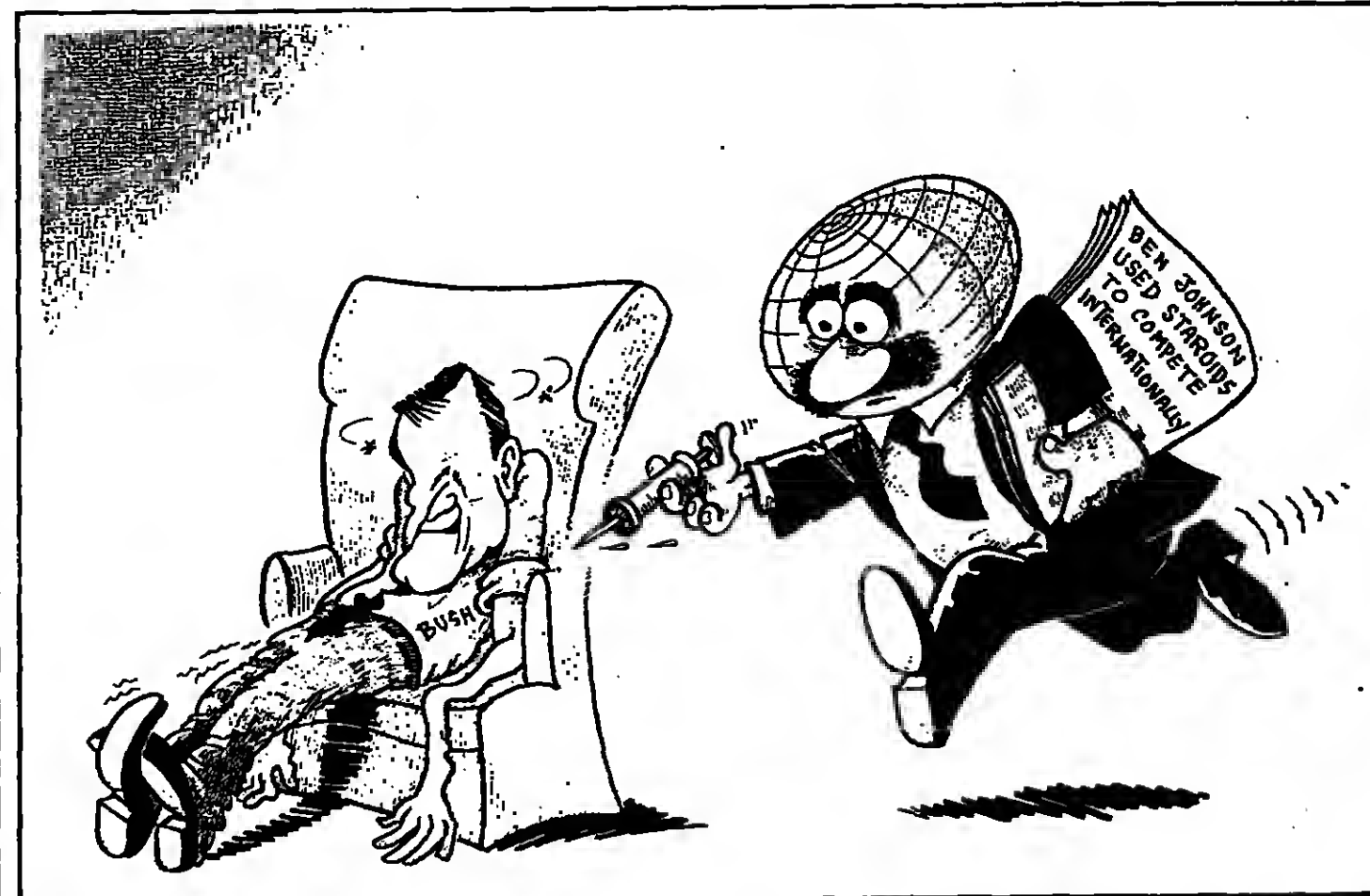
To be fair, one must wait for the official American version on the meeting before making final judgements. On the face of it, the picture emerging from the meetings in question is alarming. Washington would be well advised to offer its own version of what exactly has transpired between President George Bush and the American Jewish leaders. There is plenty of room to suspect a deliberate attempt to disseminate disinformation by the Israeli and Jewish side in order to broaden the cleavage between the U.S. and the Arab World. The answer to all such queries must await the full elucidation of the American position on the Arab-Israeli conflicts. Hopefully this could be done soon.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily newspaper Saturday tackled King Hussein's visit to Holland where he will take part in an international conference on the protection of the environment. The paper said that the King's participation reflects his interest in contributing towards protecting the world from the danger of pollution, a policy adopted in the Kingdom and pursued with all possible means. But the King is also scheduled to hold meetings with world leaders taking part in that conference to discuss the Middle East peace and the region's issues, the paper said. It noted that the King's visit will be part of his on-going endeavours world-wide to find a solution to the Palestine problem, and proves that he is not losing any moment or sparing any effort in this regard. The King is careful to benefit from the current East-West détente and the relaxed world political atmosphere to bring direct attention towards the Middle East issue, the paper added. It said that there is need not only to protect the world's environment from pollution but also real need for peace to protect the peoples of the world from further conflict and bloodshed.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily newspaper comments on Israel's continued drive to abort the on-going U.S.-PLO dialogue over the Middle East issue. Ibrahim Sakikha says that the United States had taken a bold step by opening the dialogue with the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, but Israel is now intensifying its efforts to foil all meaningful talks leading to a settlement. The writer says that the Bush administration which is still reassessing the situation in the Middle East is falling under continued Zionist pressure in Washington and from Tel Aviv to halt the talks with the PLO. The writer notes that Washington is holding out in the face of Israel's pressure; and the Arabs indeed hope that the United States will finally free itself from the Zionist influence once and for all, and embark on even-handed policies in dealing with the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestine problem. One example of Washington's positive stand in this regard, the writer says, is the latest statements by U.S. officials that resistance activities conducted against Israel from Lebanon do not create any obstacle in the path of the PLO-U.S. dialogue which is meant to end the whole conflict in the area.

Al Dustour daily newspaper tackled the on-going uprising in the occupied Arab territories which, it said, has now entered its 16th month. The paper said that the past 15 months proved the futility of Israel's iron-fist policy, and the failure on the part of its military machine to quell the Arab spirit of resistance. The paper said indeed the sacrifices offered by the Palestinians and the continued and determined struggle have won the Palestinian people world-wide support and brought about splits within the Israeli society and between political leaders. Above all, the paper said pressure from various nations on Tel Aviv and the numerous difficulties confronting the Israeli government have also contributed to the present unstable policies conducted by the Israeli leaders and their unstable behaviour as to the right course of action to deal with the situation. The more brutal the Israeli soldiers are and the more intransigent the Israeli government is, the more determined the Palestinian people will become to liberate themselves and their lands from occupation, the paper concluded.



## Pressure grows on Bush to formulate Middle East policy

By Maher Mouasher  
Special to the Jordan Times

RECENT Soviet diplomatic moves in the Middle East, coupled with intensified efforts by the PLO and other Palestinians and Arabs to bring Israel to the negotiating table, are likely to spur greater U.S. involvement, according to most expert reports. The recent visit by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to Syria, Jordan, and Egypt, and his meetings with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens have received large amounts of press attention in the U.S. The attention focused on the new role that the Soviet Union is likely to play in future peace negotiations and what response the U.S. administration might have in the form of new initiatives of its own.

Thus far, the Bush administration has been wary of jumping into the situation with a hastily drawn up initiative that might have little chance for success. President Bush seems to want to avoid at all cost a result similar to the failed Reagan peace initiative several years ago. The failure of the Reagan initiative moved administration away from an active role in the Middle East and contributed to the lack of diplomatic movement by the Israelis during Reagan's second term as U.S. president.

George Bush is determined to gain a better understanding of the dynamics of the region before he makes a major push of his own as U.S. president. Towards that end he spent a good part of the time that he was in Tokyo attending the late Japanese Emperor Hirohito's funeral in meetings with Middle Eastern leaders including His Majesty King Hussein and President Mubarak of Egypt. This flurry of meetings, coupled with expected visits by many Arab leaders to the U.S. over the next couple of months, and an expected trip to Washington by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir soon, should help Bush formulate a position fairly quickly, and he will likely be devoting more attention to the Middle East.

Until then, the U.S. is not likely to make major moves in the Middle East, according to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, in spite of the increased Soviet presence. While that remains the official position, the Soviet moves have increased the pressure on the U.S. to act in the region, and will still likely contribute to a faster U.S. time schedule for involvement in the Middle East.

Shevardnadze's visit is not the only factor that will make George Bush increase his focus on the Middle East. The high profile of the situation in the U.S. press and the greater push by PLO leader Yasser Arafat on Israel to join in negotiations are bound to increasingly prod Bush to action. Arafat's recent meeting with Israeli media, and the video tape, with Arafat that was shown in Israel addressed to Israeli audiences have presented the Israeli government with a strong appeal to negotiate. The refusal by Shamir to even consider these negotiations has put Bush, as Israel's strongest ally in a very difficult position, and the pressure increases on him daily to act on the situation.

Along with the articles that regularly appear by U.S. Jews in the American press urging support for Israel are an ever increasing number of articles critical of Shamir and in favour of talks with the PLO as the only way to achieve peace. These articles increasingly call on Bush to press-

ure Israel towards the negotiating table. A recent article in the New York Times by Menachem Rosensaft, a member of the Presidents of Major American Jewish Organisations, called on Bush to pressure Shamir to act. He was deeply critical of Shamir, saying that "Mr. Shamir and other Israeli hardliners reject any plausible peace overtures" and asked the Bush administration "not to be misled into believing that Mr. Shamir's views accurately reflect Israeli public opinion." He went on to say that "it is...naïve to think that Mr. Shamir will present a credible peace proposal when he visits Washington this spring. More likely, he will put forward yet another public relations scheme designed to deflect attention from his intransigence." Rosensaft views reflect those of a growing number of American Jews. He was one of the first prominent American Jews to meet with Arafat last fall in Geneva, and his position is increasingly finding greater acceptance in the U.S.

Together with these factors

there is, of course, the continuing stream of headlines from the infatigable as a constant prod to action. Every day, headlines like "Israel's handling of uprising on trial," "The Palestinian Cost: Be Young and Maimed," and "2 more Palestinians killed" greet Americans in the morning, and reflect the urgency that must be accorded towards achieving dialogue for peace.

George Bush is not likely to immediately make the Middle East his number one priority. He has things like the John Tower nomination and the new U.S. budget to take care of in Congress first. But with the Soviets moving forcefully with American Jews making noise, and with the PLO pushing for peace, the Middle East will be a high priority in the Bush administration's agenda and the Americans will become more active in the region soon. You can at least count on that happening. The Bush administration has to great a stake in the Middle East for that not to happen.

## 'Ye shall blot them out to the last man'

The following article, written by Yitzhak Shamir, was published in 1943:

ALL the chatter, indeed the entire complex people have against the resort to terror, may be rebuffed via easily understood arguments — exposing the true face of those who advocate the "legal," the "democratic" way, showing how much terrorism is in fact concealed under these guises. But we do not wish to take this easy road, and we will therefore here disregard that option and allow citizens on both left and right to keep their illusion that there own methods, and those of the government, do not constitute terrorism. We instead take it upon ourselves to defend the hardest position, i.e., to reduce the concept of "terrorism" to its narrow form of menace and assassination of one's enemy using mines, bombs and so forth. All of proper society, both left and right, as is known, is always "shocked" to the depths of its corrupt soul by such deeds, and stands ready to aid the ruling regime in bringing these anarchist terrorists to the scaffold and eliminating them. But this same society is not willing to do so if, for example, 769 passengers from the Struma are legally murdered, along with tens of thousands of others who might have been saved but were not. That is not terrorism — that's at worst, a "bad law" or "brutality."

Neither Jewish ethics nor Jewish tradition can disqualify terrorism as a means of combat.

We are far from having any moral qualms as far as our national war goes. We have before us the command of the Torah, whose morality surpasses that of any other body of laws in the world: "Ye shall blot them out to the last man." We are particularly far from having any qualms with regard to the enemy, whose moral degradation is universally admitted here.

But first and foremost, terrorism is for us a part of the political battle being conducted under the present circumstances, and it has a great part to play: speaking in a clear voice in the whole world, as well as our wretched brethren outside this land, it proclaims our war against the occupier. The real terrorist hides behind his stacks of paper and of laws he himself legislated. (Our terrorism) is not aimed at persons, but rather at representatives, and therefore it is effective. If, in addition, it shakes the Jewish population out of its complacency — so much better. Thus, and only thus, will the battle for liberation commence.



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# Palestinian women evolve as their world changes

By Gail Fitzer  
Reuter

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM** — Palestinian women are winning higher social status because of their vital, front-line role in a 15-month revolt in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Emerging from the shadows of conservative Arab society, they have become demonstrators and community organisers, though Palestinian feminists say there is a long way to go.

Israeli troops clashed last Tuesday with Palestinian women marking International Women's Day a day early with marches in the West Bank towns of Ramallah, Hebron and Kalkiya.

In Ramallah soldiers arrested 17 women, forcing them into army jeeps, and hit and kicked others who tried to stop them from making the arrests.

Troops fired rubber bullets to

disperse the women and witnesses said at least three women were wounded.

Slogans on walls read: "Men and women, hand in hand, will escalate the uprising" and "equal pay for equal work."

"The role of women in the intifada is as important as the role of men and because of that women are more confident about themselves and are respected by society," Zahira Kamal, Director of the Jerusalem-based Women's Work Committee, told reporters.

"At the same time the women's movement is united now and that will help them to achieve their social rights."

"Women participate in demonstrations as much as the men. Some demonstrations are only women... hundreds of women have been imprisoned even though many of them have children," Kamal said.

Al-Haq, a Palestinian Human Rights Organisation, said in a

statement issued for International Women's Day that 28 women and girls have been killed by Israeli troops firing live, rubber or plastic bullets during demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza.

More than 500 Palestinian women have been arrested during the revolt and 18 have been jailed without trial, Al Haq said.

The Israeli army does not keep separate casualty figures for women, a spokeswoman said. Troops had standing orders to avoid confrontations with women and children where possible, she added.

The total death toll in the uprising is 398 Palestinians and 16 Israelis.

**Sexual harassment**

Al Haq said: "arrests are often followed by periods of interrogation marked by physical and psychological torture as well as sexual harassment..."

"Administrative detentions have targeted activists in the Palestinian women's movement," it added.

It said many women had suf-

fered fractured limbs and broken ribs from Israeli beatings.

Kamal said women played a significant role in visiting the wounded and distributing food in towns and villages under curfew.

Women are also active in first aid, food, agriculture and teaching committees run by the underground leaders of the uprising, she said.

Hanan Mikhail Ashrawi, dean of the arts faculty at Bir Zeit University, said Palestinian women had become a more significant political force during the uprising, taking part in decision-making.

"The status of women has improved because they are visibly seen not only as participants but as being effective participants by taking initiatives and sustaining programmes."

Despite their new social importance, Palestinian women are still far from achieving equality in their traditional society.

"Equality needs a social change, political rules and civil rules and under occupation you couldn't get that," Kamal said.



## 'Illegal logging' caused the killer floods in Thailand

By Charanee Normita Thongtham

The scale of the recent floods in Southern Thailand is being blamed on illegal logging and mining — a lucrative trade backed by gun-toting thugs who had suppressed villagers' protests

**BANGKOK** — Thailand's prime minister, Chatichai Choonbavan, has banned all logging activities in southern Thailand after the devastating November flash floods.

The floods triggered an avalanche of felled logs — which buried the villages of Kiriwong in Lan Sak district and Tambon Nua Klong Ramech in Phibun district, Nakhon Si Thammarat province, some 800 kilometres south of Bangkok. The floods killed 355 villagers and destroyed 56,000 houses, 883 bridges, 618 schools and 163 temples in 14 southern provinces.

Some of the killer logs belonged to a timber company which was granted a concession in 1974 over 30 plots of forest in Phibun district. Legal logging was suspended in 1984, and reopened in 1988. But "even when the forest was closed, illegal logging went on," a local member of parliament has alleged.

Phra Siew Bunyachato, the abbot of Huay Ko Temple in Phibun district, in hospital with severe back injuries sustained in the flood, said villagers protested against the illegal logging but were told to shut up or be killed.

He described how two years ago he led a group of 200 villagers to the district office to complain — but they were told officials were powerless to help.

Villagers recall that, shortly afterwards, a group of gunmen appeared and threatened to kill anyone who continued to protest. Four villagers and a district officer have since been murdered, and the killers have not been apprehended.

"A large number of tin and tungsten mines in forest reserves in adjoining areas of Nakhon Si Thammarat's Muang and Lan Sak districts are being operated without authorisation and blasting has affected the soil structure," he said.

Conservationists say that logging, both legal and illegal, combined with slash-burn cultivation and construction of huge hydro-electric dams has reduced Thailand's forest cover from half the land area to less than a fifth (15 per cent to 18 per cent) at present. Officially, Thailand claims 29 per cent forest cover, on the basis of a Landsat satellite survey in 1985, but conservationists say this included fruit orchards and

rubber plantations.

Dr. Somsak Sukwong, dean of the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, has estimated that between 1961 and 1985 over 500,000 hectares of forest were being destroyed each year in Thailand.

But over the last half century, the Forestry Department was able to reforest at only one fifth of that rate — 10,000 hectares per year — according to the 1987 annual report of the Thailand Development Research Institute.

Furthermore, despite extensive commercial tree planting during the past two years, the trees planted were eucalyptus, which drew cries of protests from villagers, whose "community forests" and fruit orchards were taken over for the planting of the fast-growing exotic tree from Australia.

Dr. Sukwong blames the situation in lack of planning and lack of control of loggers, both legal and illegal.

After the floods, Prime Minister Chatichai allocated \$40 million for flood relief, and personally distributed foodstuffs and other necessities to victims. He imposed an indefinite ban on all logging activities in 12 provinces in the south in December. Minister of Agriculture Sanan Khachornprasart also announced that reforestation will begin in earnest.

The ban on logging has not, however, appeased student leaders and environmentalists, who are now demanding that all concession rights be revoked.

"A temporary ban on logging in the south not solve the forestry crisis because it does not guarantee that logging would not be allowed to resume," said Renoo Phaisalanpanichakul of the Committee for the Conservation of Natural Resources and Environment, which groups students from 16 universities and institutes.

The government has said that, before ending concession rights, it must first make sure that the move is within the law to keep loggers from suing the government. But there are those who say that the real reason why the government cannot revoke concession rights is that some powerful politicians are themselves involved in the logging business — Panos.



Deforestation was behind last year's floods in Thailand. Here villagers clear a steep slope, threatening later soil erosion — and flooding.  
(Photo credit: Mark Edwards/Panos Pictures)

## Exposure, exposure, exposure

This is the second of a two part report on how television influences contemporary society By Joshua Meyrowitz

Word communications and expressions have completely different strengths and weaknesses, and until recently, they each reigned supreme in different realms of society. While expressions have an important role to play in personal, private relationships, they are severely limited as a form of public argument and discussion.

Television has brought about a blurring of these two forms of interaction. We now respond to public events and people in terms of their personal appearance, gesture and emotion.

Recent polls show that many people will vote for a candidate they disagree with on the issues, because they say they like the candidate personally. This dichotomy of response to personality and stands on the issues make sense only in a television culture. If we read a candidate's speeches in a newspaper, it would be insane for us to say, "This is all nonsense, I like the guy." Such a reaction only makes sense when we feel we have met and "know" our leaders personally. And television gives us that feeling.

Few people can be masters of both expression and communication. Thomas Jefferson was a beautiful and clear writer, and he has been considered by many to be the most intelligent U.S. president. But he would not make a very good TV president. He had a slight speech impediment, and he was voted the homeliest student at William and Mary College. Worst of all, he disliked speaking in public so much that he never addressed congress in person; instead he sent his State of the Union speeches to Congress to be read by a clerk.

The emotional, charismatic reaction to TV hurts theatre in two ways. Not only does the loss of interest in language hurt drama, but it was once the case that theatre held an edge over real life, and over poetry and literature, in terms of fleshing out public characters. An actor would literally "give a body" to types of people we could not watch so closely in real life. People from different walks of life — kings and paupers, famous people, living and dead — would be brought to life for us by the theatre.

### Reality

But now the standard by which we measure theatre's distance or closeness, its verisimilitude or distortion, is not real life, but television and other electronic media. And on TV, we experience people at a simulated intimate distance. Theatre suddenly seems more distant than reality — a reality that is composed of vicarious interactions with our many media friends.

The more we see and hear them, the more performers, newscasters, politicians, talk-show hosts and subjects of the news become part of our extended network of friends. Some of them are there to say "good morning" to us; others come to us as we eat dinner and sing in our ears as we jog. We see their nervous twitches and the twinkles in their eyes. We are aware of their colds and haircuts, their good days and their bad days. Through television, we develop a sense of intimacy with those who were once distant. We come to feel that we really know a John Lennon or a Christa McAuliffe, the teacher-astronaut who died when the space shuttle "Challenger" exploded. We feel we've met their family members and understand who they are as people.

Hence the difficulty today of writing a play about someone like Christa McAuliffe. On the day of the accident, millions of people felt they knew Christa, that she was their friend, their neighbour, their teacher. Many people would rather see a documentary drawing on actual news footage than see an actress portraying Christa. And when such media friends are portrayed in biographical plays or "docu-dramas," it makes more sense to many people to experience the drama on TV rather than in a theatre, because watching it on TV is closer to the original "real experience" — that of seeing the people and events on television.

Even in nonfiction and history, there has always been dramatic reconstruction of people's lives. We forget some things about people and invent others. Thomas Jefferson's speech impediment or Abraham Lincoln's high, squeaky voice are rarely mentioned or re-created, and we made up stories about George Washington cutting down the cherry tree. But such forgetting and inventing depend on not having a detailed visual and aural record of people. By giving us visual and aural memories and "realistic" video records, TV has narrowed the range of believable dramatic recreation.

But is television reality? Of course not. Television is a construction and reconstruction of reality. And here is another problem for traditional theatre. It might be said that theatre was once a commentary on society or reality. But to have a separate commentary there must be a perceptible line between reality and theatre, between fiction and non-fiction, between action and comments on actions. And television has increasingly blurred the line between what we perceive to be drama and what we perceive to be reality.

Even news shows on television

are constructed fictions, with electronically meshed images that take place not in the real world, but only on television. Often when TV interviewer Ted Koppel speaks with three guests on a live programme such as "Nightline" — a seemingly real event — the event exists only on television. Koppel and the three guests are not in the same place; their conversation is a dramatic construction played on the stage of television. Or to push this further, what is the nature of the reality of hostage-taking when the event is designed by both hostage-takers and journalists to make good TV drama?

### Drama

Perhaps it is because of our subconscious awareness of the construction of reality on TV that we use the word drama so loosely to refer to almost everything on

The more we are aware of the backstage machinations of everyone from presidential candidates to television evangelists, the less willing we are to grant the theatre its lifeblood: suspension of disbelief.

Television doesn't simply expose some of the former backstage of life and then leave the culture; it stays around to absorb and transmit the result. TV is an ever-present dynamo that reprocesses our culture. It brings about structural changes, then the changes are reported on TV as news, then the changes move into soap operas and TV dramas and situation comedies, which leads to further backstage exposures, which bring about further changes, which are reported on the news, and so on. So TV is a tightly wound spiral of change that winds backward on itself as it thrusts us forward into an unknown and bewildering future.

Meyrowitz's insights into the role of television in the United States are increasingly relevant to other cultures. In 1986, there were over 625 million television sets in the world, one for every eight men, women and children.

Although the author's point of departure here is the explicit challenge the small screen presents to a compelling medium — the theatre — he addresses the covert challenge TV makes to us all: to use language and reason to connect the dots behind

### Changing

Television's rapid and continuous reworking of our culture presents another challenge to theatre by changing the social backdrop to drama. Theatre depends on fiction being separate from reality not only to encourage audiences to enter a theatre but also for the construction of a meaningful drama in the first place. It is much easier to comment on a relatively stable outside world, where everything and everybody has its place. Writers and directors need things to stand somewhat still for a generation, at least a decade — at the barest minimum, a few years. Otherwise by the time a book or play about the culture appears, the culture may have changed. But TV fosters a continuously changing present.

The constant reprocessing of our culture and behaviour through television makes it more difficult to have timely commentary in theatre, fiction and poetry. The target moves too quickly to take careful aim. Every six months there is a new set of "in" terms, "in" people, hot topics, along with a new set of taboos — words and topics that are now seen as overdone, sexist, racist or simply passe.

One of the things that makes television so compelling is that it seems to be an all-purpose medium of entertainment, commentary and news, with events that unfold before our very eyes. It has its own internal system of

cross-reference, where the news refers to new fictional programmes and fictional programmes reflect recently reported news events. This unfolding and cross-referencing gives us the sense of television being in the "present tense" — anything can happen at any moment. In contrast, a movie or a book — and, ironically, even a live dramatic performance — seems canned by comparison, in the "past tense."

Theatre was once an obviously richer, denser form of experience than ordinary moments of living; now the differences are more subtle. The impact of dramatic timing is diluted as the rush of outside media events beckons.

The impact of drama is dependent on the isolation of the audience from other settings, from other actions, from other words. Every phrase, movement, prop and lighting effect is designed to contribute to a cohesive definition of the situation, of a tragedy or comedy, of a time past or present, of a certain set of characters, in a specific matrix of time and space coordinates. The play is meant to be the totality of the audience's experience. The audience can, of course, draw on earlier experiences to understand and interpret the drama, but the only new input is supposed to emanate from the theatrical production and all its visual and aural elements.

Nothing could be further from the spirit of television than such a placebound experience. We don't interact with television in a darkened room to the exclusion of other activities. One recent study found that most people watch TV while doing other things: eating, playing, washing the dishes, talking on the telephone, reading, arguing or even making love. More than a third of viewers of a typical hour-long TV programme do not watch the programme to the end, and about 40 per cent search for another programme during commercial breaks.

Cable TV, with its dozens of channels, and video-cassette recorders have further splintered time and space. A programme recorded on videotape can be stopped, raced forward or pushed backward. Wireless remote channel controls allow for convenient travel through 40 or more channels, 40 or more different psychological spaces, without ever rising from one's couch. The newest generation of television sets even permits the viewing of two or more stations simultaneously, with smaller pictures inset in the corners of the screens. All this is more supportive of three-ring circuses than of traditional drama.

### Stimuli

We often talk about this influence of the television in terms of the simplistic complaint that people, especially children, have

"declining attention spans," but it is much more complex and pervasive than that. There has been a basic change in the sense of appropriate and normal experience. We have come to expect quickly shifting multi-dimensional stimuli.

The director of a university creative-writing programme complained to me recently about television's impact on writing, but then he added that when he attends a sports event these days, the live experience often feels flat, distant and thinly textured. He can't see the players close-up, he can't view the field from a quick succession of multiple angles, he can't relive actions through instant replays. Theatre goes no doubt feel some of these same things; that theatre is limited, thin, unidimensional. Our experience with TV makes us hunger for more. To sit in a theatre for two hours is, for many people, to be cut off from numerous other potential experiences.

What can the theatre do to respond to the invasion of television? I'm afraid it is easier to describe some of the difficulties than to offer simple solutions. Certainly, it seems unlikely that people will stop watching television or stop using all the other electronic media, new and old, that give us a sense of placeless, multiple-layered stimuli. At the same time, it would be a mistake to try to ignore television and its effects. It would also be a mistake to abdicate to television's multimedia shows or visual/aural extravaganzas.

Rather than ignoring or giving in to TV, perhaps artists need to confront television more directly by helping us gain insight into the television experience. Their most powerful tool in this regard is the word. Language can dissect our experience with television.

Television images are produced by thousands of flashing dots that we perceive in a sensual gestalt. Drama and poetry — because of their reliance on language — are capable of connecting the dots.

We do not usually see links between the elements on television. We tend not to notice the connection between the programmes and the commercials. We don't see contradictions: how the news report on pollution of underground water may be related to the manufacture of the products of the news show's sponsors.

Theatre can help us to think about such things. The TV-dominated electronic landscape is one that affects almost everyone in society, yet TV isn't very good at commenting on itself. Theatre can fill the void. It can challenge us to think about TV by making the television environment a "character" in drama and by making the shared experiences of television part of what theatre analyses and dissects.

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| <p>Cinema Tel: 677420</p> <p><b>CONCORD</b></p> <p>Michael Jackson<br/>In<br/><b>MOON WALKER</b></p> <p>Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 9:30</p> | <p>Cinema Tel: 675571</p> <p><b>NUJUM</b></p> <p><b>HOLLYWOOD<br/>AIR FORCE</b></p> <p>Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p> | <p>Cinema Tel: 677420</p> <p><b>PLAZA</b></p> <p><b>NO WAY<br/>OUT</b></p> <p>Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p> |
|--|--|---|



# U.S. revitalises Third World debt initiative

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — In a significant shift of U.S. policy, Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady Friday proposed a plan to significantly reduce the core debt burden of hard-pressed Latin American nations.

The plan, the first by an U.S. administration targeted at debt reduction itself, envisages creating pools of money from existing World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) resources and to reduce debt and guarantee interest payments of debtors.

Brady, in a speech to a conference on debt sponsored by the Bretton Woods Committee and the Brookings Institution, said: "To support and encourage debtors and commercial bank efforts to reduce debt and debt-service burdens, the IMF and World Bank could provide funding, as part of their policy-based lending programmes, for debt or debt-service reduction purposes."

Although the IMF and World Bank would set guidelines on how their money is used, negotiations and transactions will remain in the market place, "encouraged and supported but not managed by the international institutions," Brady said.

Treasury Department officials said Brady's plan was still in the proposal stage and that the details have to be negotiated with U.S. allies and the institutions involved.

The previous strategy, crafted in 1985 by former secretary of treasury James Baker, saw secretary of state, relied on economic growth and new commercial bank lending. But the new lending over materialised.

Brady's proposal retains basic elements of the Baker plan that economic growth, reforms and new lending are important and that debt relief be undertaken on a case-by-case basis.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said President Bush had not been briefed on the details of the plan and had not made his final decision.

Treasury officials declined to discuss how much of the \$1.3 trillion debt burden carried by developing nations would be reduced under the plan, but said it would be significant.

"The magnitude that would be involved would be quite substantial," said an official.

The proposal stresses voluntary negotiations between the debtor nations commercial banks, which Brady said he hoped would grant waivers to existing loan agreements to allow current debtors to participate.

"We expect these waivers to

accelerate sharply the pace of debt reduction and pass the benefits directly to the debtor nations," he said, suggesting a three-year waiver period.

"Our objective is to rekindle the hope of the people and leaders of debtor nations that their sacrifices will lead to greater prosperity in the present and the prospect of a future unclouded by the burden of debt," Brady said.

## Volcker cautions against looking for 'magic elixir'

Former Federal Reserve chairman Paul Volcker, who also spoke at the debt conference, cautioned against looking for a single "magic elixir" to solve the crisis.

"If not well-managed, a process of debt reduction clearly could be hazardous to the health of debtors and creditors alike," Volcker said in a speech before Brady's appearance.

Volcker said that the question which needed to be answered is whether the value of Third World debt can be reduced in an orderly manner that does not jeopardise the likelihood of repayment of whatever debt is left after the reductions occur.

## Conable, Camdessus see need for more flexible approach

Both World Bank President Barber Conable and Michel Camdessus, head of the IMF, said a more flexible approach to the debt problem is needed, contending that debtor countries face economic and political crises without debt relief.

Camdessus said that the riots in Venezuela last week represented just one of several "time bombs" involving the debt issue which could explode unless solutions are found quickly. Those riots erupted after the government imposed tough austerity measures to please creditors.

"More has to be done urgently by all," he said. "The debt strategy has to be given a second wind and broader scope."

Conable suggested that Mexico would be an excellent candidate to try the new approaches first because of the good-faith efforts it has made in the past to meet its financial obligations.

"Mexico has indicated a wil-

lingness to engage in major reforms," said Barber Conable. "It has substantial prospects. It also has lived up to its obligations."

"The international financial community should offer Mexico a wider than traditional range of options to finance its requirements over the next few years," Conable said.

His first suggestion was that there should be a significant reduction in Mexico's debt, the largest in the Third World after Brazil's. Current loans to Mexico should be exchanged at a discount for long-term bonds, he said. This would be a form of debt forgiveness by the commercial banks to which the bulk of Mexico's debt is owed.

Mexico would have less to repay when the bonds came due, and interest paid in the interval would also be reduced.

Conable also suggested: — "Exit bonds," to be taken by creditor banks at a discount from the sums now owed them, enabling some banks to get out of lending to Mexico. This would also reduce the principal and interest Mexico has to pay;

— A "debt-equity swap programme" which would allow banks to use the dollars they have lent to Mexico to buy shares in Mexican businesses;

— Strong support from international bodies like his own bank and the IMF to support Mexico's austerity policies. Although Conable did not specify, this support would presumably include additional loans on more favourable terms than those offered by commercial banks;

— New tax, trade and banking regulations by creditor countries to encourage private investment from abroad that will help Mexico's income to grow.

"New money will be needed in Mexico's case even after significant debt reduction," Conable added.

He said that his bank and other international bodies cannot furnish the needed money alone, implying that new loans from commercial banks will also be needed.

## Bradley voices support

Senator Bill Bradley, a Democrat who is a frequent critic of the 1985 Baker plan, called the new proposal "a significant change of direction." But he warned that the policy would have no chance of success unless the administration of President Bush created a special post of "debt ambassador."

Bradley said this official would have to ensure that the debt reduction effort got off the ground quickly.

## Bankers await details

Bankers say that the U.S. treasury's plan to spur Third World debt reduction is a welcome initiative but its success will depend on details not yet apparent.

"There is a danger that people will look at this and assume the debt crisis is solved. The success or failure will depend on the details," said one U.S. banker.

"It's a major change because it focuses on debt relief and debt reduction which previously were a no-no," said another.

But others said the proposals raised many questions. While welcoming the acknowledgment that both major industrial nations and multilateral agencies need to be involved to tackle the debt crisis, they said this may raise thorny issues.

In particular, they expect Japan — in return for providing increased financing — will demand a higher say in the operations of the IMF and World Bank at the expense of the United States.

"The Japanese monies could be conditional on the United States relinquishing some of its authority at the IMF and World Bank," said one banker.

Japanese officials said Japan's Export-Import Bank will increase loans made in parallel with the IMF to debtor countries which take advantage of the new strategy.

"Whatever amount of funds comes from Japan, the United States will have to put in more also. With the U.S. budget deficit, that amount will not be substantial," said a European banker.

Bankers said key elements of the proposal, with its focus on debt reduction through such mechanisms as loan swaps or

interest-rate relief — as demanded by debtor countries for some time — were much as anticipated.

As for the financial repercussions, some U.S. bankers said that while the plan implies more lenient accounting practices, institutions will still be facing lower revenues.

"One way or another, banks will not make as much or will suffer write-offs," said one U.S. banker.

## France lands backing. Britain shows caution

In Paris, France welcomed the new U.S. plan to help ease the Third World debt burden but a cautious Britain said the new proposals would need very careful study.

French Finance Minister Pierre Bérégovoy welcomed the move, saying it was a step in the right direction.

"The United States accepts from now on that the debt reduction options play a major role in the treatment of middle-income countries' debt," Bérégovoy said in a statement.

"It is a step in the right direction, which meets the idea suggested by France for a multilateral guarantee fund aimed at helping operators to reduce bank debt," he said.

In London, a British treasury spokesman said the plan was interesting but would need very careful study.

He said the world's main industrialised nations had already developed a strategy that had made a valuable contribution to the Third World's debt problems and would continue to do so.

"The Brady proposals are an interesting extension of the existing strategy, which already includes the explicit option of voluntary debt reduction," the British spokesman said.

Bérégovoy said France would help find ways to make fast progress with the programme.

"We are ready for our part to examine with our partners the methods and conditions allowing rapid progress..." he said.

He said some of the ideas behind Brady's plan were close to those presented by French President Francois Mitterrand to the United Nations in September last year.

Mitterrand then proposed the creation of a fund within the IMF to guarantee payment of interest charged on some commercial loans converted into bonds.

Japanese Finance Minister Tatsuhiro Murayama has already said he will support financially the U.S. debt plans.

## 'Very timid step'

Major Latin American nations Friday welcomed Brady's debt-reduction initiative, but some questioned whether it went far enough to ease their debt burdens.

Venezuela's President Carlos Andres Perez, whose nation was gripped by riots last week following price hikes aimed to satisfy its creditors, called Brady's initiative a "very timid step" toward meeting needs of Latin American debtor nations.

But Perez told reporters after arriving here to meet Latin American foreign ministers hold-

ing a two-day conference that the plan was a move in the right direction.

"The intention of the programme is encouraging because it deals with fundamental questions that have been raised by Latin American countries. But these are very timid steps that do not fulfil the basic aspirations of our peoples," he said.

Perez said he would discuss the plan with Latin American foreign ministers and said he hoped that the talks would lead to a dialogue with President Bush on the region's views.

## 'A positive step'

Finance Minister Milton Nobrega of Brazil, the Third World's biggest debtor, in a statement called the debt-reduction plan "a positive step and an important

conceptual advance in the right direction."

But Nobrega said a final evaluation depended "on the formulation of the details of the plan and on the conditions of its implementation which, we believe, should be the subject of discussion as soon as possible."

The Mexican finance ministry also welcomed the initiative.

"The change of emphasis placing priority on the reduction of debt and its servicing and not on additional indebtedness is particularly positive," the ministry said in a statement.

Latin American countries want debt service — last year amounting to \$33 billion — reduced to reflect the discounted values of their debt in secondary markets. Apart from Chile, most countries' debt is selling considerably below 50 cents on the dollar.

## AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

| Saturday, March 11, 1989    |       |       |                        |       |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|------------------------|-------|-------|
| Central Bank official rates |       |       |                        |       |       |
|                             | Buy   | Sell  |                        |       |       |
| U.S. dollar                 | 538.0 | 542.0 | Japanese yen (for 100) | 415.1 | 419.1 |
| Pound Sterling              | 923.2 | 930.6 | Dutch guilder          | 256.0 | 258.0 |
| Deutsche mark               | 285.5 | 291.1 | Swedish crown          | 84.5  | 85.1  |
| Swiss franc                 | 337.7 | 340.5 | Italian lira (for 100) | 39.4  | 39.7  |
| French franc                | 85.2  | 85.8  | Belgian franc (for 10) | 138.0 | 139.1 |

## Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, March 4, 89 and ending Wednesday March 8, 89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

| Name of company                                  | Number of shares | Volume of trade | Opening price | Closing price | Par value |
|--|------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| <b>Banking and financial institutions</b>        |                  |                 |               |               |           |
| Industrial Development Bank                      | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Petra Bank                                       | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordan Islamic Bank                              | 50               | 103             | 2,040         | 2,060         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Kuwait Bank                               | 1865             | 2579            | 1,460         | 1,360         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Gulf Bank                                 | 3082             | 3942            | 1,290         | 1,220         | 1,000     |
| Housing Bank                                     | 1150             | 2086            | 1,850         | 1,810         | 1,000     |
| Arab Jordan Investment Bank                      | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Cairo Amman Bank                                 | —                | —               | —             | —             | 5,000     |
| Bank of Jordan                                   | 1754             | 27006           | 15,350        | 15,250        | 5,000     |
| Arab Bank  | 4387             | 657986          | 153,500       | 147,500       | 10,000    |
| Jordan National Bank                             | 20990            | 54309           | 2,600         | 2,560         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Finance House for Development             | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation        | 1350             | 3005            | 2,570         | 2,470         | 1,000     |
| Finance and Credit Corporation                   | 1520             | 3027            | 2,000         | 1,970         | 1,000     |
| National Financial Investments                   | 2724             | 2596            | 0,960         | 0,950         | 1,000     |
| National Portfolio Securities                    | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)                | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordan Securities Corporation                    | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Real Estate Financing Corporation                | 140              | 2415            | 17,500        | 17,250        | 2,000     |
| Al Mashreq Exchange                              | —                | —               | —             | —             | 10,000    |
| Middle East Exchange                             | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing      | 7260             | 7386            | 1,100         | 0,950         | 1,000     |
| <b>Insurance and reinsurance</b>                 |                  |                 |               |               |           |
| Jordan French Insurance                          | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| REFCO Life Insurance                             | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordan Insurance                                 | 10932            | 40686           | 3,750         | 3,640         | 1,000     |
| Arab Life and Accident Insurance                 | 4000             | 4240            | 1,110         | 1,060         | 1,000     |
| Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance                | 1100             | 1485            | 1,350         | 1,350         | 1,000     |
| Holy Land Insurance                              | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Philadelphia Insurance                           | 1000             | 1110            | 1,140         | 1,100         | 1,000     |
| Arab Union International Insurance               | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jerusalem Insurance                              | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordan-Gulf Insurance                            | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| General Arabia Insurance                         | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Middle East Insurance                            | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| National Alhithra Insurance                      | 350              | 494             | 1,570         | 1,350         | 1,000     |
| Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance           | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| United Insurance                                 | 3000             | 3540            | 1,200         | 1,180         | 1,000     |
| <b>Services and industries</b>                   |                  |                 |               |               |           |
| General Investments                              | 50               | 64              | 1,350         | 1,270         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Investment and Commercial Facilities      | 100              | 77              | 0,810         | 0,770         | 1,000     |
| Danco for Housing and Investment                 | 10013            | 7818            | 0,810         | 0,770         | 1,000     |
| Real Estate Investment (Aqarco)                  | 55413            | 36122           | 0,650         | 0,650         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment               | 13803            | 5149            | 0,380         | 0,370         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Leasing Corporation                       | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments         | 12000            | 2000            | 0,670         | 0,660         | 1,000     |
| Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajecro          | 24600            | 7134            | 0,790         | 0,790         | 1,000     |
| International Contracting & Investment           | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordanian Electric Power                         | 6430             | 10264           | 1,630         | 1,560         | 1,000     |
| Irbid District Electricity                       | 1208             | 1087            | 0,910         | 0,900         | 1,000     |
| Arab International Hotels                        | 30190            | 22755           | 0,750         | 0,750         | 1,000     |
| Hotels and Tourism                               | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| United Middle East and Comodore Hotels           | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Garage Owners Federation Office                  | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordan National Shipping Lines                   | 17650            | 18827           | 1,090         | 1,040         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Press Foundation                          | 495996           | 1608586         | 2,940         | 3,500         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Press and Publishing                      | 379000           | 852485          | 1,790         | 1,720         | 1,000     |
| Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing      | 20250            | 11070           | 0,600         | 0,520         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Dairy                                     | 6931             | 6696            | 0,980         | 0,940         | 1,000     |
| Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing                | 27101            | 82103           | 3,180         | 2,910         | 1,000     |
| Intermediate Petrochemical Industries            | 69815            | 112749          | 1,660         | 1,580         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Phosphate Mines                           | 15636            | 54041           | 3,850         | 3,300         | 1,000     |
| Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Totals) | 28907            | 46331           | 1,530         | 1,600         | 1,000     |
| Arab Chemical Detergent Industries               | 2300             | 1527            | 4,750         | 4,500         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products          | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing        | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Aladdin Industries                               | 22100            | 40433           | 1,860         | 1,800         | 1,000     |
| Arab Aluminium Manufacturing                     | 54875            | 108752          | 2,100         | 1,930         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Worsteds Mills                            | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordan Ceramics                                  | 36210            | 67823           | 2,000         | 1,800         | 1,000     |
| Chemical Industries                              | 9600             | 22290           | 2,580         | 2,280         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Industries and Mauch (JIMCO)              | 20600            | 14488           | 0,730         | 0,690         | 1,000     |
| Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment      | 330              | 814             | 2,340         | 2,330         | 1,000     |
| National Steel Industries                        | 23388            | 65014           | 2,870         | 2,710         | 1,000     |
| Universal Chemical Industries                    | 44400            | 123054          | 2,900         | 2,720         | 1,000     |
| General Mining                                   | 50               | 110             | 2,150         | 2,200         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Petroleum Refinery                        | 6561             | 53855           | 8,600         | 7,950         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Lime & Brick                              | 400650           | 8809            | 0,220         | 0,210         | 1,000     |
| National Industries                              | 13397            | 13236           | 1,020         | 0,950         | 1,000     |
| Arab Paper Converting and Trading                | 100              | 41              | 0,380         | 0,420         | 1,000     |
| Arab Investment and International Trade          | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)                 | 29629            | 52886           | 1,740         | 1,810         | 1,000     |
| Livestock and Poultry                            | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordan Pipes Manufacturing                       | 21300            | 34988           | 1,750         | 1,660         | 1,000     |
| Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags                | 200              | 356             | 1,680         | 1,820         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Paper and Cardboard                       | 88               | 317             | 3,790         | 3,600         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Rockwool Industries                       | 32500            | 32708           | 1,070         | 0,970         | 1,000     |
| Trans-Jordan Minerals Research                   | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordan Himeh Mineral                             | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Orient Dry Batteries Factory                     | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Woolco Industries                                | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordan Tanning                                   | 649              | 1318            | 2,050         | 2,050         | 5,000     |
| Jordan Printing and Packaging                    | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette                     | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Mas Industries                                   | —                | —               | —             | —             | 1,000     |
| Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals      | 114789           | 128514          | 1,050         | 1,050         | 1,000     |
| National Cable & Wire Manufacturing              | 14200            | 20783           | 1,570         | 1,450         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Spinning & Weaving                        | 34137            | 37908           | 1,740         | 1,080         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Sulpho Chemicals                          | 24765            | 69785           | 2,860         | 2,760         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Cement Factories                          | 73544            | 86434           | 1,180         | 1,180         | 1,000     |
| Jordan Glass Industries                          | 11750            | 12189           | 1,050         | 1,020         | 1,000     |
| Grand total                                      | 1,877,479        | 4,710,795       |               |               |           |

## Subroto foresees no cut in OPEC production quotas

LONDON (R) — OPEC Secretary-General Subroto was quoted Saturday as saying he foresaw no cut in OPEC oil quotas and \$18 a barrel oil in the second half of 1989.

Answering a question in Vienna on whether OPEC would follow non-OPEC producers in reducing oil output, he told the Saudi-owned London-based Arabic daily newspaper Asharq Al Awsat: "No action from OPEC is expected."

Subroto said oil prices would reach \$18 per barrel in the second half of 1989 and OPEC has to choose between higher production or prices.

"Certainly... the price will reach \$18 a barrel," he told the newspaper. "When we enter the



## Edberg, Lendl sorely tested, Shriver falls

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (R) — Ivan Lendl and Stefan Edberg, the top seeds in the \$415,000 Scottsdale classic men's tennis tournament, were tested Friday by unseeded opponents before advancing to the semi-finals.

Czechoslovak Lendl, the number one, fought his way through two close sets to defeat 17-year-old Yugoslavian Goran Ivanisevic 6-4, 6-4 in their quarterfinal tie.

Second seeded Edberg of Sweden narrowly averted disaster against unseeded American Kevin Curren before winning 6-4, 3-6, 7-6.

Lendl, the world's number one, will face Emilio Sanchez, ranked 17th, in Saturday's semi-finals. Fourth ranked Edberg will play unseeded Amos Mansdorf, ranked 26th, in the other semi-final.

In the other quarterfinals, fifth seeded Sanchez made swift work of unseeded American Jim Courier 6-3, 6-3 and Mansdorf, playing a steady baseline game, upset sixth seeded American Brad Gilbert 5-7, 6-3, 6-0.

Edberg and Curren played an acrobatic match of serve and volley tennis which hung on a handful of points to give Edberg the victory. Edberg broke Curren in the sixth game of the first set and held onto the lead to serve it out 6-3.

But in the second set, the Swede was broken on a forehand crosscourt winner by Curren, giving the American a 4-2 lead. Curren held on to the advantage to serve out the set 6-3 with another forehand winner.

The third set was closely fought with both players returning well but missing crucial chances to break. Games went to 6-6 and the tiebreaker where Edberg got an early break with a blazing backhand down the line to go ahead 2-0.

Edberg scored another break to lead 6-4 with a forehand return down the line but Curren saved the first match point with an ace. Edberg served out the match, 7-5 in the tiebreaker, when Curren netted a forehand.

"From break point in the third set I really started fighting," Edberg said. "I really wanted this match. If I wouldn't have fought, I probably would have lost."

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. (R) — Australian Jenny Byrne stalled Pam Shriver's planned assault on the top ranks of women's tennis players by handing the American a 6-2, 3-6, 6-2 loss in the quarterfinals of the \$250,000 Indian Wells women's tennis tournament Friday.

Shriver, who took a break from competition last month to refocus her singles game in an effort to break into the top spots in the rankings, was let down by her serve Friday.

"If I can serve well I can control the tempo of the match. That did not happen today," said Shriver, who had picked up added confidence in her potential when she snapped number-one Steffi Graf's 46-match winning streak at the season-ending championships last November.

Byrne's upset victory put her into the semifinals against Australian Hana Mandlikova, who advanced with a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Isabelle Demongeot of France.

Second-seeded Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia overcame a strong second set challenge to defeat compatriot Jana Novotna 6-1, 7-6 (7-4). Sukova will face fourth-seeded Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria, who got past sixth-seeded Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden 6-3, 6-1 in the other semifinal.

Byrne, 64th in the world, said she knew what she had to do.



Challenge of the unknown: Stefan Edberg squeaked through against unseeded Kevin Curren on the tiebreak of the final set.

### SPORTS IN BRIEF

#### Inter fine reduced on appeal to UEFA

ZURICH (R) — Italian league leaders Inter Milan gained a reduction to one of three fines which totalled a record 225,000 Swiss francs (\$143,000) when they appealed Friday to the European Football Union (UEFA). A UEFA appeals board reduced the largest fine of 150,000 francs (\$95,000) to 100,000 francs (\$63,000) after a hearing which lasted two and a half hours. The fines were imposed after incidents at the Italian soccer club's UEFA cup third round second leg tie against Bayern Munich in December when fans set off fireworks and started a fire. UEFA's disciplinary committee announced the fines in January when Inter were also penalised 25,000 francs (\$16,000) for their players' unsportsmanlike behaviour and 50,000 francs (\$32,000) for showing the match live on widescreen television in contravention of competition regulations.

#### East German fans took fireworks to game

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany's youth daily called Saturday for a crackdown on soccer hooligans, saying Magdeburg fans evaded security and took cases full of fireworks to a recent first division match against Dynamo Dresden. Junge Welt noted a spate of violent incidents had occurred since East German soccer re-started last month after the winter break. It said the federation's disciplinary committee could not complain about lack of work. "It will have to be established how whole cases of pyrotechnics got through the turnstiles in the first place," the newspaper said. It called for better controls and tough penalties against clubs with inadequate security. The soccer federation has already appealed to clubs and fans to stamp out crowd trouble. A number of recent games have been interrupted after fans lobbed fireworks and other objects on to the pitch.

#### World champion Cooman beaten again

MADRID (R) — World 60 metres indoor champion Nelli Cooman of the Netherlands lost for the second time this week, finishing fourth behind U.S. winner Alice Brown in an indoor athletics meeting Friday. On the Madrid track where Cooman set her world record of 7.00 seconds in February 1986, Brown and Jamaican Merlene Ottey left the jaded-looking Dutch sprinter for dead from the gun. Brown won in 7.11 seconds with new world indoor 200 metres champion Ottey second in 7.22. Cooman, fourth behind Ottey, Brown and American Evelyn Ashford in Athens Wednesday, had to settle for fourth place again in 7.28.

#### Allofs refuses Beckenbauer's call

PARIS (R) — West German striker Klaus Allofs has refused a request from national coach Franz Beckenbauer to play for West Germany in a soccer friendly against Bulgaria on March 22. "He called me a few days ago but we have a French Cup game that day and after my long injury, I have to think about my club first," Allofs, who joined French League leaders Marseille from Cologne two years ago, told the sports daily L'Equipe. Allofs, who did not play for six months at the beginning of this season because of a knee injury, admitted he had personal problems with the West German coach. "I heard nothing from him when I was injured. It was not very nice but that's the way it goes in football," he said.

#### Syria defeats North Yemen 1-0

SAN'A, NORTH YEMEN (AP) — A second-half goal by Nizar Mahrouq gave Syria a 1-0 win against North Yemen Friday in World Cup qualifying play. The halftime score was 0-0. A capacity crowd filled the Al-Thawra stadium for the West Asia group 2 clash, but the home team turned in an unimpressive performance in a slow-paced match. Syrian goalie Malek Shak-koubi was occasionally tested, but the Yemenis long passes and stray kicks were brought out results. Mahrouq picked up a long, low pass by George Khouri and tapped the ball past the diving North Yemen goalkeeper, Amio Al-Sonaini, in the 54th. Syria meets Saudi Arabia next Wednesday in Riyadh in the next West Asia group 2 qualifying match for the 1990 World Cup.

#### Ferrari name new head of racing division

MARANELLO, Italy (R) — An executive of Italy's Fiat car group Friday took over the Ferrari racing division which the company's late founder Enzo Ferrari personally directed until his death last August. Ferrari said in a statement that Cesare Fiorio had been appointed head of the racing division in place of Pier Giorgio Cappelli, who was put in charge of the section shortly after Ferrari's death. Fiorio was formerly head of the sports racing divisions of Italian car makers Alfa Romeo and Lancia. Alfa Romeo and Lancia are both wholly-owned subsidiaries of industrial giant Fiat SpA. Fiat topped its stake in Ferrari by 40 per cent to 90 per cent last autumn. Ferrari last month unveiled its new normally-aspirated Formula One racing car which Britain's Nigel Mansell and Austrian Gerhard Berger will drive this season.

### FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 1989

#### YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

— As Charted By the Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Activities may not move along as planned. Communications are difficult. Many ideas form, but are impossible to organize or express.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19):** Family pressures have everyone's feathers ruffled. Not a good way to start a day, but a little patience will go a long way.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20):** Your diet plans may need to be put back on the track. Lower your expectations and keep within realistic limits.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21):** Activities will keep you on the go. Plan ahead, get the proper rest to carry out a busy week. Bargain shopping gets results today.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21):** You feel artistic and appreciative of what is beautiful and natural. Keeping appointments may be difficult.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21):** Focus on gains made with your own talents and efforts. Combine forces and share equally with your companion.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22):** Today starts a cycle that can be favorable in changing a lifestyle that is unhealthy and abusive. Take better care of yourself.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22):** Take seriously your desires to learn. Plan now to extend your education. You may be challenged by a provocative tutor.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21):** Keep finances in check. Avoid friends who drain your resources. Settle unfinished business with an old friend.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21):** Others may try to fool you by switching plans without your knowing about it. Romance has an opportunity to blossom tonight.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20):** A flirt, the one you kid around with, may want more attention that you care to give. A correct attitude will keep the matter in balance.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19):** A fix-up project around the home has its problems. An expert can explain what is hampering your progress.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20):** Have faith in your own abilities. You are hard to live with when your self-confidence is low and needs to be propped up.

## Forest beats Arsenal to reopen title fight

LONDON (R) — Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest put the fizz back into the English League title chase by thrashing leaders Arsenal 3-1 Saturday.

With their controversial manager serving a touchline ban after throwing punches at fans at a league cup match in January, son Nigel Clough took on the responsibility of spurring his team-mates to victory in London by opening the scoring himself.

The win extended Forest's unbeaten run to 16 games and though their title hopes remain slim — they are 14 points adrift of Arsenal — they performed a big favour for second-placed Norwich.

Norwich, playing their 1,000th league game at their Carrow Road ground, beat F.A. Cup holders Wimbledon 1-0, thanks to a 51st minute goal by Trevor Putney and narrowed the gap with Arsenal to two points, with one game in hand.

Millwall, 2-1 winners at Luton

with a first-half double by Jimmy Carter, can also take heart from Arsenal's troubles. They hold on to third place and are now nine points behind the leaders who have won only once in their last four league matches.

Forest, the most successful cup side this season with places in the English League Cup final and the quarter-finals of the F.A. Cup, went ahead after just six minutes when Nigel Clough pounced on a pass from Lee Chapman and shot home from 12 metres.

Arsenal, who beat Forest 4-1 in Nottingham last November, levelled seven minutes later with Alan Smith scoring his 21st goal of the season but Forest barely paused for breath.

First Franz Carr raced through from the right to beat goalkeeper

### STANDINGS

LONDON (R) — English League soccer table after matches played Saturday.

#### English Division One

|                      | P  | W  | D  | L  | GF | GA | P  |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Arsenal              | 28 | 16 | 7  | 5  | 53 | 28 | 55 |
| Norwich              | 27 | 15 | 8  | 4  | 40 | 28 | 53 |
| Millwall             | 27 | 13 | 7  | 7  | 40 | 31 | 46 |
| Liverpool            | 25 | 11 | 9  | 5  | 36 | 20 | 42 |
| Nottingham Forest    | 25 | 10 | 11 | 4  | 37 | 27 | 41 |
| Coventry             | 27 | 11 | 8  | 8  | 35 | 27 | 41 |
| Manchester United    | 25 | 10 | 9  | 6  | 35 | 21 | 39 |
| Derby                | 26 | 11 | 6  | 9  | 30 | 25 | 39 |
| Wimbledon            | 26 | 11 | 5  | 10 | 32 | 31 | 38 |
| Tottenham            | 28 | 9  | 10 | 9  | 41 | 38 | 37 |
| Everton              | 26 | 9  | 9  | 8  | 32 | 29 | 36 |
| Middlesbrough        | 27 | 8  | 7  | 12 | 31 | 43 | 31 |
| Queen's Park Rangers | 27 | 7  | 9  | 11 | 26 | 25 | 30 |
| Aston Villa          | 27 | 7  | 9  | 11 | 35 | 42 | 30 |
| Luton                | 26 | 7  | 8  | 11 | 28 | 33 | 29 |
| Southampton          | 27 | 6  | 11 | 10 | 39 | 51 | 29 |
| Charlton             | 28 | 6  | 10 | 12 | 31 | 43 | 28 |
| Sheffield Wednesday  | 27 | 6  | 9  | 12 | 22 | 37 | 27 |
| Newcastle            | 26 | 5  | 7  | 14 | 23 | 46 | 22 |
| West Ham             | 25 | 4  | 7  | 14 | 21 | 42 | 19 |

John Lukie from a tight angle and Pearce, with a free kick, made it then England defender Stuart 3-1 in the 35th minute.

## Jackson turns the tables on Kingdom

GLASGOW (R) — Olympic champion Roger Kingdom paid a heavy price for concentrating his mind on breaking the world indoor 60 metres hurdles record when he was beaten for the first time by Colin Jackson Friday.

Jackson, running for Britain in a triangular meeting against the United States and the Soviet Union, clocked the fastest time recorded in Britain to pip the man who has defeated him on seven occasions in the past seven months.

The finish was so tight that the result was first announced as a victory for the American, but the positions were quickly reversed with Jackson winning in 7.44 seconds.

Kingdom, who equalled compatriot Greg Foster's world mark of 7.36 at a meeting in Athens Wednesday, clocked 7.46.

He said later: "I got too involved in trying to go for the world record and I forgot who I was racing against. Colin ran a hell of a race."

Jackson, second best to Kingdom in the Seoul Olympics and world indoor championships in Budapest a week ago, said: "It's a relief to have beaten him at last." "To be honest I thought Roger had won, although I knew it was very close."

Michael Rosswess was quick to follow up Jackson's success with a personal best of 6.57 seconds in the 60 metres to win from American Brian Cooper, and the home squad completed a sprint double with world indoor champion John Regis taking the 200 in 20.99.

## U.S. — the new soccer power?

NEW YORK (AP) — If the United States becomes a major player on the world soccer scene, what happened in Saudi Arabia last month might be considered the starting point.

"It's history," says Ralph Perez, one of the coaches of the U.S. under-20 team that finished fourth in the Youth World Cup tournament. "The main thing we stressed was we wanted to make history by getting out of the first round, be the first U.S. team that went to a world championship and got out of their group."

The Americans not only did that by going 1-1 in the opening round, they stunned Iraq to the quarterfinals before falling to Nigeria in overtime in the semifinals.

"What we did assured that FIFA people who saw it, and people around the world who followed it, saw great representation of U.S. soccer," Perez says. "For U.S. teams that go anywhere in the future, the ingredient of knowing it can be done has been established."

The United States will be the host of the 1994 World Cup. The national team begins the final round of qualifying for the 1990 tournament later this month and is expected to make it. Suddenly, soccer just might have a future in this country.

"We were the surprise team of the tournament and what we did was a real astonishment to many people," Perez says. "It was a major upset when we beat Iraq, who beat Argentina and Spain and had not conceded a goal up to that point in the tournament."

"We had to travel up Taif in the mountains from Jeddah to play them and they stayed where they were. Everything was against us."

"These are things that would have intimidated our previous teams. But the boys responded brilliantly."

Bob Gansler, the national team coach, is in South America with the U.S. squad that will go after one of two available spots in the 1990 World Cup. Before leaving

for the exhibition tour through Venezuela and Paraguay, Gansler admitted that the underdog role perfectly suited his team.

"Being underrated helped us," he said. "Nobody at the tournament mentioned the Americans to do anything. We were sort of an unknown commodity. We don't have the track record of Brazil, Argentina or even Nigeria."

They didn't even have a berth in the tournament until Mexico was disqualified last year for using overage players. Perez believes the American team was the reason the Mexicans cheated.

Most of the players on the under-20 team will form the nucleus of the 1992 Olympic squad and, most likely, the World Cup team in '94 — the United States gets an automatic bid as the host.

### TO FOREIGNERS IN JORDAN

The Jordanian Women Federation is pleased to announce that a course in teaching conversational and classical Arabic language will start on March 15, 1989.

It will be held in the Federation's centre at Jabal Al Hussein as follows:

3 days weekly (2 hours each)

For more information please call Tel: 670325

N.B. monthly payment is JD 15.

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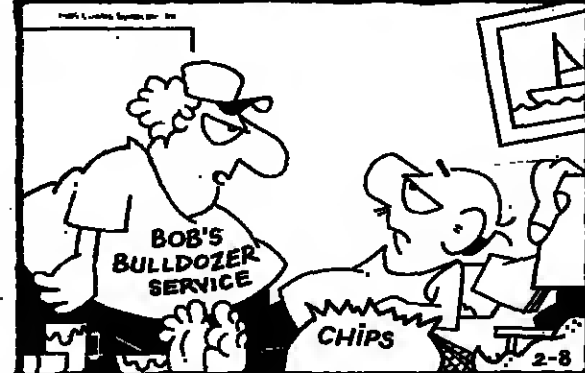
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### THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

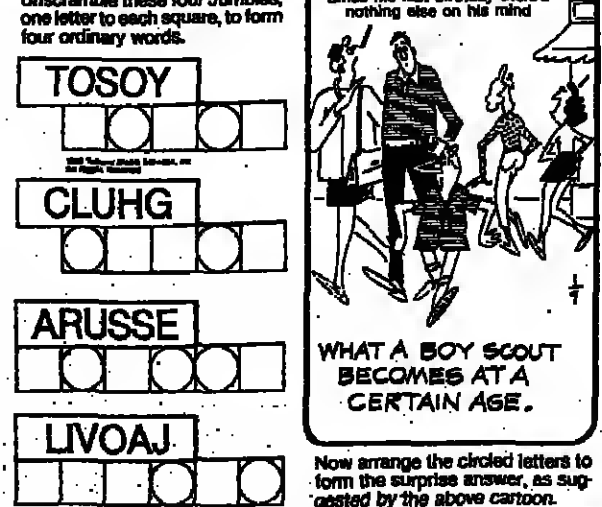


"Mrs. Parker hired me to tidy up your den."

### JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Answer here: A

Saturday's Jumbles: BELLE TROTH LUNACY OUTWIT

Answer: All-night conversations tend to be duller just before this — THE "YAWN" (the dawn)

### Peanuts



### Mutt'n' Jeff



### Andy Capp







Paris battles... top: Jacques Chirac, bottom (left to right): Jacques Medecin, Dominique Baudis and Pierre Mauroy

## French women slip into politics

PARIS (R) — French women, the outcasts of national political life, hope municipal elections this weekend will give them a chance to slip into politics through the back door.

France was one of the last countries to give women the vote, in 1944, and although 53 per cent of its voters are now women only 33 women sit in the 577-seat parliament, the lowest level of female representation in the European Community (EC) and 22nd in the world.

"We have nothing to be proud of when you look around and see Margaret Thatcher, Cory Aquino and Benazir Bhutto," said former Conservative Minister Monique Pelletier, a fierce campaigner for women's rights.

Pelletier believes the two-round municipal polls starting Sunday are a chance for women to "discreetly but surely" enter the political stage.

In the last such vote six years ago women increased their representation in local politics from 8 to 14 per cent, three times the percentage of women in parliament.

But Pelletier also believes women can sharpen their political teeth working on the day-to-day issues arising in France's 36,500 town halls — more than in all of the 11 other EC nations put together. "Women are more practical, closer to reality, she said in a guide to the municipal polls. "When our male colleagues

vote to invest in prestige operations, we say we would prefer a crèche or a nursery-school."

Radical feminists who only a few years ago turned their backs on such ballots are now eager to vie for election.

Twenty years after the birth of the country's women's liberation movement, one of its founder-members has launched a new movement aimed at giving women a fairer share of the political pie.

"The battle to give women their rightful share in policy-making will be one of the big issues of the next decade," said Antoinette Fouque, founder of the New Women's Alliance for Democratization.

## Bush sees 'clear sailing' for Cheney through Congress

WASHINGTON (R) — President Bush, moving past the political turmoil surrounding his first choice to head the defence department, predicts "clear sailing" for his nomination of Richard Cheney as defence secretary.

Moments after Bush's announcement Friday the Senate Armed Services Committee said it would begin confirmation hearings on Cheney, a 48-year-old congressman from Wyoming, next week.

"I believe it will go very fast and I believe that it will have smooth sailing before the Senate," Bush told reporters, adding that he hoped "to accelerate the clearance process, and get that moving... too much time has been wasted."

With a two-week recess looming in mid-March, a final vote in the Senate was not expected before April.

The Senate Thursday rejected Bush's first choice, John Tower, following days of bitter debate over the former senator's financial ties to defence contractors and allegations involving heavy drinking and womanising.

Cheney, first elected to the House of Representatives in 1978, has been involved in budgetary and intelligence issues in his role as one of the top Republican leaders in Congress.

He served as President Gerald Ford's top White House adviser in 1975 and 1976, when Ford was trying to restore presidential prestige after the Watergate scandal that drove Richard Nixon from office.

Where Tower piled up grudges during his 24 years in the Senate, Cheney has accumulated compliments for his ability to work with Democrats who control both

chambers of Congress.

Democratic Senator Sam Nunn of Georgia, Tower's chief opponent and chairman of the Senate panel reviewing the nomination, offered a swift assessment of Cheney.

"He's well respected. He's well liked... I know of no impediment to his nomination."

Other Democrats echoed the assessment, with Senator Bob Graham of Florida saying, "I'm very impressed by him — he has a very thoughtful, strategic mind."

Senate Republican leader Robert Dole predicted: "This time around we'll have a confirmation, not an execution."

Defence analysts also praised Cheney's selection, with Helmut Sonnenfeldt of the prestigious Brookings Institution in Washington calling it "a very good choice."

## McFarlane says North kept him in the dark on contra meetings

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Oliver North left his White House boss Robert McFarlane out of a tactics session for the Nicaraguan contras and sought more military funds for the rebels at a time when Congress had outlawed it. McFarlane has testified.

McFarlane, a prosecution witness in North's criminal trial, said he was not informed about a June 1985 meeting in Miami attended by North and Adolfo Calero and other rebel leaders to discuss the opening of a southern front in the conflict between the rebels and the Nicaraguan government.

North also failed to inform McFarlane before planning a trip to San Jose, Costa Rica, to oversee a planned airstrip to provide supplies to contras fighting on Nicaragua's southern border, the former national security advisor testified Friday.

North has pleaded innocent to 12 criminal charges, including lying to Congress and other misconduct, stemming from his role in the 1985-86 plan to sell arms to Iran and divert some of the proceeds to the contras.

His attorneys have argued he was merely following orders from the country's highest officials, while independent prosecutors allege he was at the centre of the covert operation and put himself above the law.

McFarlane, who acknowledged Friday he had tried to commit



Oliver North

suicide after the scandal became public, said he disapproved of North's suggestion to ask for doubled military aid to the contras from a Middle Eastern country at a time when Congress had made such aid illegal.

The Middle Eastern country, which McFarlane did not name, had been providing \$1 million a month in money for the contra war since July 1984, before Congress voted to cut off aid.

"I was not going to go and ask them for more money," McFarlane said, referring to the Middle Eastern country. "...We couldn't seek any money for military support."

McFarlane, who was sentenced last week to two years probation, 200 hours of community service and a \$20,000 fine for his role in the Iran-contra scandal, testified

earlier that then-President Ronald Reagan did not want Congress to know about such third-country contributions.

McFarlane said Reagan was told in 1984 that he could be impeached for allowing solicitation of money from other countries for the contras.

The suggestion by James A. Baker, then Reagan's chief of staff and now President George Bush's secretary of state, "was strongly countered" by other top officials at a meeting with Reagan, with the conclusion that Baker was wrong, testified McFarlane.

Still, Reagan said "we'll all be hanging by our thumbs" if word got out that McFarlane or other administration officials were indeed seeking help from abroad, McFarlane said.

There was no visible interplay between McFarlane, who is testifying for the prosecution, and North when McFarlane walked into the courtroom with his attorney.

McFarlane's face reddened at the start of his testimony when he was asked by chief prosecutor John Keiser, "Did you try to commit suicide?"

"Yes, said McFarlane, looking at the jury, "on Feb. 9, 1987." That was shortly before release of a White House-ordered report on the Iran-contra affair and the beginning of congressional hearings.

## Tibetan unrest subsides

PEKING (R) — Chinese troops appeared to be firmly in control of Lhasa Saturday, as unrest subsided in the Tibetan capital and residents reported fewer arrests and no gunfire.

"Many arrests yesterday... today better," one Tibetan said in one of the few telephone calls connected to Lhasa Saturday, two days after virtually all foreigners were expelled from the region.

Lhasa was racked this week by three days of separatist riots which subsided when martial law went into force at midnight Tuesday. Official accounts say 16 people died in the violence, which began last Sunday, but doctors in Tibet put the figure at 30 and Tibetans say 60 died.

Wan Li, chairman of the National People's Congress, China's parliament, was quoted by state radio Saturday as saying that martial law had been "entirely necessary" and that it was supported by the overwhelming majority of Tibetans.

Lhasa residents reached by telephone said they were unaware of any shooting by police or stone throwing by separatists Saturday.

One resident said monasteries on the outskirts of Lhasa remained officially closed, as China sought to defuse any threat of further demonstrations which might follow Friday's 30th anniversary of the abortive 1959 uprising against Chinese rule.

The official China News Service said late Friday more than 1,000 soldiers were patrolling the

streets of Lhasa, and mentioned a one-kilometre long convoy of 72 military vehicles carrying "fully armed troops."

It quoted a spokesman for the regional government as saying the heavy military presence would frighten any separatists waiting for an opportunity to resume protests.

The news service said Saturday that elementary and secondary schools were "enthusiastically preparing to resume classes as

soon as possible.

Similarly, the Communist Party newspaper the People's Daily, which had prominently reported three days of violence by separatists before martial law was imposed, reported the region as quiet late Friday night, putting its account on inside pages.

The New China News Agency said late Friday: "The nights are now quite... no more screams, no more sirens."

Peking appeared intent on underlining its frequently stated policy that Tibet is an internal affair, and that outsiders have no right to intervene.

In an unusual move the Foreign Ministry Friday summoned representatives of all members of

the European Community.

Apparently upset at the issue of Tibetan human rights being raised in the European Parliament this week, the ministry told the diplomats that it considered such action interference in China's internal affairs.

Peking also delivered a stern warning that tough measures would be taken to prevent chaos not only in Tibet but also against political dissidents elsewhere who have been demanding greater freedom.

The People's Daily warned that those who pushed too hard for political change were also risking social instability, directly linking the unrest in Lhasa with potential political dissent elsewhere.



Tibetans demonstrate in Lhasa last week before police moved in to break them up

## Soviet elections begin

MOSCOW (R) — Elections to a new revamped Soviet parliament began Saturday with little fanfare as members of the Society of Inventors voted and filled the five seats that had been specially set aside for them.

While not a model of the multi-candidate voting urged by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the polling ushered in the elections to the Congress of People's Deputies, one chamber of a parliament intended as the centrepiece of his political reforms.

An anti-Boris Yeltsin campaign, meanwhile, appeared to be growing in the Soviet capital as the Moscow city Communist Party chief and others criticised the ideas of the fallen Kremlin radical, who is now running for parliament.

The official Soviet news agency TASS reported the results of the Society of Inventors' meeting in a brief report that said the ballot boxes were unsealed and the votes counted in the presence of election commission members and Soviet and foreign journalists.

All five candidates had been nominated for the job in advance.

"The first five deputies were named today at the enlarged plenum of the Central Council of All-Union Inventors and Innovators, which unites about 15 million people," TASS said.

"As members of the supreme legislature of the USSR they intend to actively promote acceleration of the socio-economic development of Soviet society and the USSR's progress in science and technology," it added.

According to the newspaper Moskovskaya Pravda, Abramov suggested the Moscow party should be more assertive in the elections by announcing whom it supports for parliament and whom it does not.

Over the next 11 days public organisations from the Communist Party to the Society of Philatelists, which are guaranteed a total of 750 seats under the new electoral law, will meet to select their deputies.

On March 26 the process reaches a climax with voting in regional constituencies across the country to fill the remaining 1,500 seats in the congress.

Congress members will in turn elect a smaller upper chamber that will sit for up to eight months a year, in contrast with the old Supreme Soviet which met only briefly twice a year to rubber-stamp decisions.

Yeltsin, the popular former Moscow party chief now running for the all-Moscow seat in parliament, has advocated a multi-party system.

Moscow party chief Lev Zaikov, in remarks carried on Soviet television, told a party meeting in the capital Friday: "Today we need not the discussion of a multi-party system but the consolidation of society on the basis of perestroika (restructuring)."

## Up to 23 killed as plane explodes in north Ontario

DRYDEN, Ontario (R) — Up to 23 people died Friday when a jet carrying 69 people crashed and exploded in flames in northern Ontario shortly after taking off in a snowstorm, police said.

Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) said 46 people survived the crash of the Air Ontario plane flying from Thunder Bay, Ontario, to Winnipeg. One person died in hospital and the remaining 22 people were presumed dead, they said.

The Fokker F-28 made a scheduled stop in Dryden, a town of 6,500 about 160 kilometres north of the U.S.-Canadian border, and crashed after taking off for Winnipeg.

Constable David Brayshaw, an OPP spokesman, said the jet ex-

ploded in flames on impact and broke into pieces.

Passenger Danny Godin said he felt "the plane quiver as we had an air disturbance." He said most of the people in the front of the plane did not get out.

Brayshaw said the plane was carrying 65 passengers and four crew members.

He said the number of people on board was determined from ticket sales. Earlier, the OPP had said the plane was carrying 61 people.

Paul McKnight, vice president of Air Ontario, a Toronto-based regional carrier, said the cause of the crash was not known and a search had begun for the plane's flight recorder.

The survivors were reached by

crews who hulled a road through the woods to the site, about a half-mile from the Dryden airport runway, police said.

Rescuers, hampered by snow squalls, used snow mobiles and sleds to carry out the injured through deep snow drifts.

The plane cut a charred swath through the woods before coming to rest with only its nose and tail intact, a witness said.

"Anything in between is pretty well broken up or burnt," said helicopter engineer Alan Whetton, who flew over the site.

Cindy Borden, who lives near the airport, said: "I just went out to start my car. I heard it (the jet), then I didn't hear it any more."

## THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Herb Ettenson

### LETTER SUBSTITUTION

By Adam Christopher

ACROSS  
1 Levy  
4 Apples  
6 A dither  
12 Becomes cloyed  
17 Table scraps  
19 — meter  
26 Biddy's place  
27 G. letters  
28 Bright song  
29 The Boston —  
37 Vestiges  
38 Frilly stuff  
39 Rill a-p.  
40 Letter  
41 Towel word  
42 Mackerel-like fish  
43 Tark, little  
44 Phases  
45 Irrelevant  
46 Get away from  
48 Arise

DOWN  
1 Track figure  
2 Sandstone tree  
3 Like some school activities  
4 Word  
5 Overland railways  
6 Copied  
7 Tomen  
8 Yearn  
9 King ft.  
10 Greyhound  
11 First games  
12 — disease  
13 Sea, unit  
14 Jacob's wife  
15 Sp. painter  
16 Fairy ruler  
17 Withdraw  
18 Method: abbr.  
24 Bare

ACROSS  
1 Sawyer and Sauer  
5 Like some college walls  
9 Long way off  
12 Come to an end  
14 Bull and buck  
16 Indian soldier  
18 Bulfinch VIP  
20 Cheap cigar

DOWN  
1 Facial spasm  
2 Eccentric  
3 Star in Cetus  
4 Oases  
5 Runaways  
6 Ballets  
7 Clothes and  
8 Mite or Pateon  
11 Fortification of a kind

ACROSS  
21 Sang under a sweetheart's window  
22 Scatter  
24 Troublemaker in Troy  
25 Scrut  
26 Favorites  
27 Norse god  
28 Directions  
30 Hot Springs

DOWN  
13 Blockheads  
14 Sea soldier  
15 Fountain feature  
17 Bow wood  
18 Kind of sheep  
19 Racine  
20 "Bait" character  
21 "Bait" character  
22 Scorn  
23 Gail —  
24 Canassa  
25 Visions

36 Kind of rubber  
40 Samba  
42 Calabaz, cash  
43 Plaited  
44 Yachting  
46 Comparative myth  
47 Regretted  
48 Diamond or Scales  
49 Copy  
50 North Sea inlet  
51 Rill a-p.  
52 Go — (persuade)  
53 Grow larger  
54 Merganser  
55 Alphabet run  
56 Olive sound  
58 Before prof.  
59 Sweetest  
61 Rising up  
62 Dared not's test  
64 IV

56 Br. composer  
58 Air, net  
59 One Gar.  
60 "Gift of the —"  
61 Mirth records  
62 Mirth records  
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100 Mirth records

33 Occupation  
34 Warts  
35 Asterisk  
37 Zodiac sign  
38 Withdraw from  
39 Union  
40 Kind of school  
41 Orient  
42 Follows  
43 Actress Thomas

31 Laid away  
32 Col off the outer layer  
33 God of war  
34 Made a formal speech  
35 Reverberation  
36 Under the influence  
37 More tranquil  
38 Biblical weeds  
42 Weathers

43 Fidelity  
44 Measuring instrument  
45 Intad  
46 Babab  
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35 Pat more ammo in a rifle  
36 Tell secrets  
37 Turning machine  
38 Machinery  
39 Property  
40 Cleryman's creator  
41 Goose game  
42 Walked to and fro  
43 Sewer  
44 Southwest wind  
45 Indian city  
46 Fulfilled  
47 Sublimation  
48 Ode's state  
49 Flap  
50 Hush-hush gp.

56 Br. composer  
58 Air, net  
59 One Gar.  
60 "Gift of the —"  
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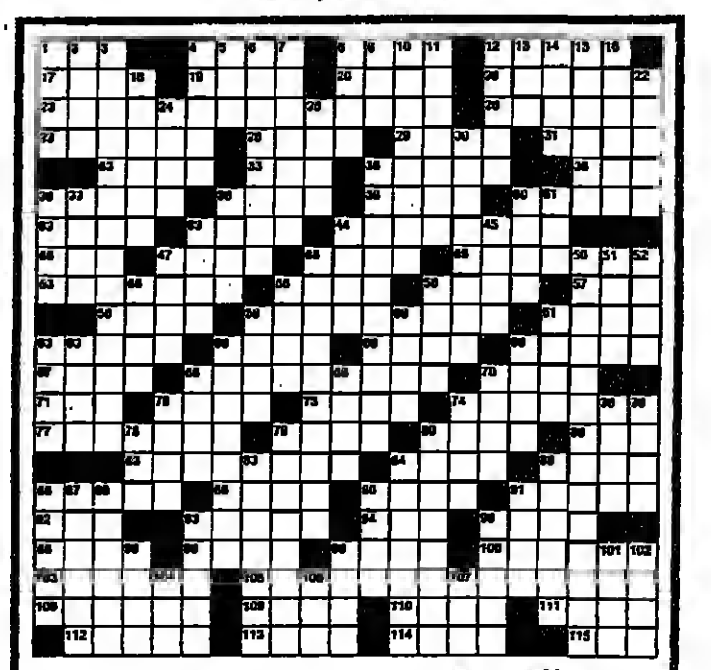
## COLUMN

### Couple arrested for doing it on street

MEXICO CITY (R) — Police arrested a U.S. couple in the Mexican border town of Matamoros after catching them stark naked and making love on a main residential street, the official Notimex news agency said Friday. Notimex said the couple was arrested by Matamoros police as they made love on the main street of the Jardin residential neighbourhood Thursday night. The agency said the couple was among the 350,000 U.S. university students who flock to the Matamoros and Padre Island, across the border in Texas, to take part in an annual week-long spring holiday festival beginning Saturday. The students are famed for their liberal behaviour and the Matamoros sanitation department annually notes a rise in the number of condoms and undergarments left on the city's streets during the festival, Notimex said.

### Something for everyone in Milan

MILAN (AP) — The good news from the Milan winter runway, which kicks off a new fashion decade, is that women can wear what they like and still be in style. No single trend or style emerged in this week's showings of the Italian ready-to-wear collections for the fall-winter 1989-90. Rather, it was a mixed fashion bag full of good-looking clothes, which don't require a perfect body. Hemlines range from the thigh to the floor, skirts come in tight and loose versions, jackets tend to be short but can also be three-quarter, there are trousers for every taste and configuration, solid colours abound but so do plaid, floral and paisley prints. In general the designers stay away from the sexy aggressiveness epitomised by the miniskirt — the Italian rage several seasons ago — to present a quieter, more casual style: dropped shoulders, long languid lines and completely flat footwear. The colour scheme draws inspiration from the shades of an autumn forest: brown, moss green, burnt yellow and hazy blues and reds. Orange and fuchsia are the favourite shocking shades. Gray and black show up in every collection.



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Jane should be a mostly beautiful month, but lots of temperatures of sixty plus are just too darn hot.
2. Famed golf pro players really don't mind going in the hole most of the time.
3. Living on a shoestring is a trick that can have anyone tied in daily knots.
4. Is U.N. the chief hope at last of our Darwin species?

### CRYPTOGRAMS

1. PQCBFKSD LKNGOPW. TFWRETNXBL FXM  
DHMSHIFSL RFGH YWFG MNYVHWHXC  
VPGNQNH.  
—By Sally L. Murray
2. SAGELY AG R SLPEOFKHB CURRADZ, MHD  
AD CHAINAZ MOILYOG TRFGT STOP AD  
BRING R MAD LK SAD.  
—By Len Sherry
3. TM WROOM TITVABE FXH BGZM YHAXN  
VIAWIFN GRNE SIMYXG NJI SZRI  
JYABOVX.  
—By Gordon Miller
4. BLOBAM BERGLE ERM BIGROCK ORKY NL  
ELDLG ECO CH BYGBYNACNI.  
—By Ed Hadfield

